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# ARAB TIMES

MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 1989 JAMADIAL AWWAL 24, 1409 AH

## Egypt's return to Arab League imminent

TUNIS, Jan 1. (Reuter): The Arab League said yesterday the return of Egypt to the Arab fold was imminent, giving new hope to Arabs at the start of the new year.

The League's Secretary-General, Chedli Klibi, said the ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war, progress on the Palestinian question and rapprochement between North African states were other reasons for optimism.

"New avenues of hope now lie open before our nation ... with the imminent return of Egypt into the fold and her resumption of her great mission within the Arab family," he said in a New Year message to Arabs.

All but three Arab countries—Lebanon, Libya and Syria—have resumed relations with Cairo, broken when it signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

Arab diplomats say Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak may be invited to the next Arab League summit, although in theory Arab leaders should first meet and agree to readmit Egypt.

## Iranian claim

NICOSIA, Jan 1. (Reuter): Iran's Navy commander reiterated today that his country claimed the right to inspect ships in the Gulf, despite the ceasefire in the war with Iraq.

**INSIDE**

**Horoscopes '89**  
(Pages 8 and 9)

International	2,3
Kuwait-Gulf	4
Events	5
Editorials	6
Features	7-9
Business	10-11
Classifieds	12
Urdu	13-14
Sports	15,16

○ پاکستان اور بھارت میں ایشیانیں بر جھلکتے کرنے کا طور پر  
○ سارک کے سرچوں پر  
امالاں اسلام آباد جاری کرونا  
○ راجو گارڈنی اور بے شکر  
بھوکی پس کا تفریض  
○ سری لانکا کے ہماری تھوڑی  
کی جزوی ایسی مدد شروع ہوئی  
○ افغانستان کی حکومت نے  
کیٹری فارم میں کامیابی کر دیا  
○ لائزرنامہ

## WEATHER

CLOUDY weather with light to moderate south-westerly wind and a chance for some rain later. State of sea: slight to moderate. High water: 7.00 am, 7.00 pm. Low water: 1.00 pm. Sunrise: 6.43 am. Sunset: 5.01 pm. Maximum temperatures recorded: Kuwait: 15°C 59°F. Ahmadi: 14°C 57°F. Faikha: 13°C 55°F. Maximum temperatures recorded: Kuwait: 45°F. Ahmadi: 47°F. Faikha: 40°C 50°F. Maximum temperatures expected: Kuwait: 16°C 61°F. Ahmadi: 15°C 59°F. Faikha: 13°C 55°F. Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 69 percent. Ahmadi: 62 percent. Faikha: 63 percent.

## Relations between the traditionally hostile countries improving

# Pakistan, India sign nuclear non-aggression agreement

ISLAMABAD, Jan 1. (Agencies): Pakistan and India have signed a pact not to attack each other's nuclear facilities and the young prime ministers of the traditionally hostile countries said they were now on the path to peaceful relations.

"An extremely important and significant step has been taken today to improve relations between India and Pakistan," Pakistan's Benazir Bhutto, 35, yesterday told a joint news conference with Rajiv Gandhi of India.

"We hope this visit will help normalise the situation between our two countries," said Rajiv, 44, on the first working visit to Pakistan by an Indian prime minister for 28 years.

### Endeavour

The nuclear non-aggression pact was the first agreement in 16 years between the two countries, which have fought three wars since becoming independent of Britain in 1947 and whose relations have been, at best, frosty.

"I think that in both our countries there is a groundswell for peace and it is the endeavour of both democratically-elected governments of India and Pakistan to work for defused tensions," said Benazir.

The last agreement between the two countries was signed in the Indian hill town of Simla in 1972 by Rajiv's mother Indira and Benazir's father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, both then prime ministers of their countries.

The accord was meant to plot a path for improved relations after India intervened to help East Pakistan fight for its independence of Pakistan and become

Bangladesh. Instead, mutual suspicion continued and deepened on India's side during the 11 years of rule in Pakistan by military President Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq, which ended when he was killed in a mysterious air crash in August.

Indian charges, denied by Islamabad, that the Pakistan Army helps Sikh separatists fight their war in India's Punjab, were also a serious difficulty to be overcome. There was also the dispute over divided Kashmir, cause of two of the wars, said Rajiv.

He said these problems had been discussed between the two leaders, but they had decided to leave efforts to find solutions to lower level officials.

Nevertheless, the signature of the nuclear accord was a major breakthrough, as the two countries acknowledged in the preface to the text.

It said they were "reaffirming their commitment to durable peace and the development of friendly and harmonious bilateral relations."

### Measures

It said the two were signing the accord "conscious of the role of confidence building measures in promoting such bilateral relations based on mutual trust and goodwill."

The accord, and two others—one on taxation and one to promote information, cultural, educational and art exchanges and joint archaeological explorations, were signed by foreign secretaries in the presence of the two leaders.

The cultural and taxation agreements were drafted a year ago.

Rajiv reached a verbal agreement with Zia in 1985 that the two countries would not attack each other's nuclear facilities, but the understanding was never formalised.

Rajiv said serious problems still remained, among them Pakistan's nuclear programme which is widely believed capable

of producing an atomic bomb. A dispute over the Siachen glacier, at 6,000 metres (20,000 feet) up in the Himalayas, the world's highest battlefield, has frequently erupted into shooting.

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Benazir (left) and Rajiv have established a good rapport. (Reuters wirephoto)

## People around the world usher in 1989

NEW YORK, Jan 1. (Agencies):

The prospect of warmer super-power relations heralded the new year today and revellers gathered in places such as London's Trafalgar Square, a Tokyo stadium and New York City's neon-lit Times Square, while earthquake victims in Armenia received gifts from around the world.

As a reminder of persisting violent strife, Lebanon ushered in the new year to the sound of exploding shells and machine-guns.

And Israeli Finance Minister Shimon Peres announced an austerity programme designed to lower inflation and revive an economy depressed in part by a year-long Palestinian uprising.

In the Vatican, Pope John Paul II marked the Roman Catholic church's World Day of Peace and prayed that 1989 would be year of justice, solidarity and greater respect for the rights of ethnic minorities.

### Harmonious

"Respect towards them (minority groups) should be considered the touchstone of harmonious human society and an index of the civil maturity reached by a country," the Pontiff said during a solemn sung mass in St Peter's Basilica.

Government troops and communist rebels in the Philippines observed a truce but 18 people were killed and 2,000 injured in firecracker blasts, stabbings and shootings during New Year revelry, officials said.

Swapping New Year messages, President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev praised closer ties between Moscow and Washington and hoped relations would improve even more.

Reagan said in a videotaped message yesterday that he and Gorbachev had "advanced our mutual understanding on the vital issues of human rights, arms reductions, regional problems and bilateral relations."

He added: "Important differences remain between our two countries and will continue for years to come but I am confident that we have been witness in 1988 to progress that—if we are careful and diligent—can continue for years to come."

Gorbachev, in his message, said superpower relations were now "more dynamic and more humane. We have become closer, and we have come to know each other better."

"Americans seem to be rediscovering the Soviet Union—and

we are rediscovering America. Fears and suspicion are gradually giving way to trust and feelings of mutual liking."

Victims of the earthquake in the Soviet Republic of Armenia received toys, jam, fruit, sweets and clothes as New Year's gifts from around the world, the official Soviet news agency Tass reported.

Gorbachev, in a televised New Year's speech to the Soviet people, called the earthquake "our common misfortune" and promised the devastated areas will be rebuilt. He also said his programme of economic and political "perestroika," or reform, is not moving quickly enough, but also said not to expect "miracles from heaven."

In Japan, as thousands thronged to shrines to usher in the New Year, thousands of teenagers welcomed 1989 by singing and dancing to the music of US rock bands at a concert in downtown Tokyo yesterday.

### Countdown

About 51,000 young Japanese people packed the Big Egg stadium for the seven-hour show featuring Bob Jovi, Britney Fox, Kingdom Come and Ratt.

Thousands packed Times Square for the traditional countdown as a 600-pound (272-kilogram) wrought-iron ball descended a pole at Times Square to mark the new year.

In the southern suburbs of Beirut, rival fighters from the Hezbollah and Syrian-backed Amal militiamen clashed in a fresh flareup of civil strife that has paralysed the country.

Civilians feared the fighting would escalate and were trapped indoors in the area where some of the 17 Westerners missing and believed kidnapped in Lebanon are thought to be held.

As Big Ben struck midnight, an estimated 100,000 revellers jammed London's Trafalgar Square today to ring in 1989, police said.

Scotland Yard said the turnout was the largest since violent new year revelries six years ago, when two women were killed in a surging crowd in the central London Square, the traditional focal point of celebrations in the capital.

Police arrested 88 people for various public order offences, mainly for drunken and disorderly behaviour, a spokeswoman said.

The London Ambulance Service said 15 people were hospitalised, but none of them was reported seriously hurt.

## Arafat opens Palestinian embassy in Saudi Arabia

COLOMBO, Jan 1. (Reuter): India will withdraw two battalions of troops from Sri Lanka in the next few days at the request of the island's President-elect Ranasinghe Premadasa, the Indian high commission said today.

High Commissioner Jyotindra Nath Dixit said the number of soldiers withdrawn would be between 2,000 and 3,000.

There are more than 50,000 Indian troops in Sri Lanka policing an Indo-Sri Lankan pact aimed at ending a Tamil rebellion in the north.

Premadasa will be sworn in as President tomorrow at a Buddhist temple in the central city of Kandy.

Indian troops started arriving in Sri Lanka in July 1987, hours after President Junius Jayewardene and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi signed the controversial pact.

The agreement, criticised by the opposition as a self-out to India, called on Tamil separatist guerrillas to lay down their arms in return for limited autonomy for minority Tamils living in the north and east.

The statement said that with the setting up recently of a semi-autonomous provincial council in the North and East and the devolution of powers to the council some troops had been withdrawn since the end of November.

The agency said Khomeini ruled that laws already passed by the council, including one ordering tougher penalties for drug-traffickers, should remain in force.

"After that, it should only act in cases where there is a difference between the Majlis and the Council of Guardians," he said in his statement.

He also urged the Council of Guardians to be more broad-minded in vetting legislation so that the high council would not have to intervene, IRNA said.

Riyadh, Jan 1. (Reuter): PLO chairman Yasser Arafat opened a Palestinian embassy in Saudi Arabia today amid hundreds of flag-waving fellow countrymen.

Arafat raised the Palestinian flag over the building, a gift from the Saudi government, amid tight security in a ceremony attended by Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal.

The 20 million riyal (\$5.3 million) premises are located just outside Riyadh's diplomatic quarter.

Arafat later toured the embassy and adjoining ambassador's residence.

**Upgrade**  
Saudi Arabia said last week it would upgrade the PLO's representative office following the proclamation of an independent state in November by the Palestinian parliament-in-exile.

The Foreign Ministry said PLO representative Rafiq Al Naqsha would be the ambassador.

### DAY BY DAY

PEOPLE who go camping out in the desert are supposed to go to the actual desert, not just within the periphery of motorways.

This isn't the desert. It is simply a polluted area that is becoming dirtier whilst the government sits and watches.

For camping purposes, special sites, such as that in Wafra, should be prepared in order to feel truly outside the city.

What are the aims of those who camp near the motorways? On observation, they look like a group of refugees.

This is certainly not the way to enjoy camping in the desert.

Zahed Matar

We start the New Year with our event

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## Cold war will end if Gorbachev succeeds, says Thatcher

LONDON, Jan 1. (Reuters): Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said today that the cold war would end if Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev succeeded in carrying out his reforms.

"Gorbachev has a person of great vision and boldness and courage. If he gets through with his reforms the world is a safer place. If he gets through with his reforms the cold war is at an end. The cold war is very much less cold," she said in an interview with the independent television channel TV-AM.

Gorbachev cancelled a visit to London last month because of the earthquake in Armenia, which officials estimate killed 25,000 people.

Expressing her admiration for the Soviet leader, Thatcher said she believed Gorbachev would pursue his reforms to the end.

Asked by interviewer David Frost if she trusted Gorbachev, she replied: "Every single thing he has undertaken to me to do he has done. And I am satisfied that if he undertakes to do something he will do it to the best of his ability."

Gorbachev, she added, would never give up.

"I believe that he will get there. It is in the interest of the whole world that he does."

Thatcher said the boundaries of Europe had not changed. "You are still NATO against the Warsaw Pact." But, she added, East-West relations had improved to a degree that the

## 12 killed in Punjab violence

CHAWINDA DEVI, India, Jan 1. (UPI): Political violence related to a Sikh separatist drive in Punjab left 12 people dead today across the northern state, including three killed in a bombing attack outside a Hindu temple, police and witnesses said.

The blast in Chawinda Devi, 25 miles (40 km) northeast of the

## 4 teenagers killed in explosion

BETHESDA, Maryland, Jan 1. (AP): Four teenagers were killed yesterday in a garage explosion at the home of a Brazilian embassy employee, police said.

Two of the victims were killed instantly by the blast, while the third person died a short time after being rushed to a local hospital. Montgomery county police Sgt Harry Gehring said. The fourth teen-ager died last evening.

The Washington Post reported in today's editions that three of the young men were described as close friends and said the four were science-oriented students who attended high school in Bethesda.

The newspaper identified the victims as Samir Gafsi, Dov Fischman and Bruno Perrone, all first-year students in college whose ages weren't available, and Gustavo Machado, 15, the son of a Brazilian attache.

### Interest

Sharmi Banik, described as Gafsi's girlfriend by the newspaper, said he had shown a recent interest in explosives.

"He was telling me about the explosion on the Pan Am jet," Banik told the Post, referring to the Dec 21 explosion of Flight 103 over a Scottish village that killed all 259 people aboard. She said Gafsi told her he and his friends "could do better than that."

Gehring said the explosion occurred at the Bethesda home of Vera Machado. He said Ms. Machado and her husband, Richard, were sleeping inside the home and were not injured.

### Causes

A security guard who answered the telephone at the Brazilian embassy in Washington said Ms. Machado was a consular attache. The guard, who refused to give his name, said he did not know her duties.

Gehring said the explosion apparently was caused by some type of bomb, but he said investigators have concluded that the blast was not caused by terrorists.

### Police free kidnapped Turkish businessman

world was moving to be a safer place.

"This is because the West has staunchly stood up for freedom and has been prepared to defend it always and has pursued its passion for freedom and justice in what one would call the justice of the world," Thatcher said.

"That battle of ideas has been ... taken to the Soviet Union," she added.

The Soviet people realised that they could not have a high standard of living without more liberty and they could not have freedom in a socialist-Marxist state, Thatcher said.

Socialism was not dead although "they are trying to kill it off in the Soviet Union," Thatcher said.

On her relationship with President Reagan, Thatcher spoke of her admiration for the man known as the "great communicator."

She told of how she sat beside Reagan at the presidential retreat at Camp David and watched him prepare and read his radio broadcasts to the nation, describing his ability to time and pace his speech to fit into the five-minute slot as fantastic.

Reagan's presidency had been remarkable, Thatcher added. "He has given America back its confidence."

Thatcher said the "special relationship" with Washington would continue after George Bush, whom she described as a man of uniquely wide experience, took over the presidency.

### Response

Quoting an unidentified Palestinian source, the paper said the US request was addressed to Arafat during talks "between the two sides in an Arab capital over the past two days." It did not elaborate.

The source said the Americans asked help "in providing the investigation committee with ... information that may lead to uncovering those responsible" for the Pan Am disaster.

He was quoted as saying the US request came in response to a PLO memorandum addressed to

## US reportedly approached PLO for help

## Arafat vows to hunt down Pan Am bombers

LONDON, Jan 1. (Agencies): Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat has vowed to help track down the bomber of Pan American Flight 103 that crashed in Scotland just before Christmas, the Sunday Telegraph of London reported.

The US administration, urging it to consider the possible involvement of Israel's secret service, Mossad, in the bombing to sabotage a crucial US-PLO dialogue that began in mid-December.

The Palestinian source said that the PLO offered to extend all assistance possible in that respect.

Speculation was still continuing in the Sunday newspapers in London about which Middle East group was responsible for Britain's worst aviation disaster. Police and FBI officials insist it will take some time to establish who was responsible and that, despite the speculation of the past 12 days, they are keeping open their options.

If one of the Palestinian dissident groups are proven responsible, it would be costly to Arafat's peace overtures toward Israel, because it would starkly demonstrate his lack of control over the Palestinian cause.

### Investigation

Sources close to the investigation in London discounted reports that they had identified a 20-year-old Lebanese student, Khalid Jaafer, who was killed along with the 258 other people on board, as the unwitting carrier of the bomb. Jaafer was on his way to visit his father in Detroit.

The Sunday Express said Arafat has vowed to dispatch a hit squad to hunt down the leader of a Palestinian faction who may have ordered the attack.

In Kuwait, the Al Seyassah newspaper reported yesterday that the PLO is considering a US request for help to track down the terrorists who bombed the Pan Am airliner.

At Heathrow, the odds were even higher because security procedures were fundamentally flawed, the Sunday Times said.

Of the 70 bags that were loaded on board the Pan Am

Boeing 727 at Frankfurt, fewer than 30 were actually searched, the Times said.

When those bags, possibly containing the suitcase bomb, were loaded on the 747 at Heathrow, the regulations procedure to ensure no transit passengers left the airport, leaving baggage on the flight, was either ignored or not properly conducted.

### Security

The Sunday Times report also said that Heathrow security relied too heavily on passengers' nationality.

As a result, a determined terrorist travelling on a false US passport could have successfully negotiated the airport defences. American passport holders were allowed to pass their bags through unchecked unless they aroused suspicion, the newspaper said.

The West German government says there's no evidence to back up news reports that a bomb was smuggled onto a Pan Am jetliner in Frankfurt before the flight exploded in the air over Scotland.

"There is no indication that the explosives could have been put on board at Frankfurt airport," said West German Interior Ministry spokesman Michael A. Butz.

Butz was responding to British newspaper reports yesterday that investigators believe the bomb that destroyed Pan Am Flight 103 was smuggled onto the flight in Frankfurt, possibly by a Lebanese passenger duped into carrying it.

### Lawsuit

The father of one of the victims, has filed a \$50 million lawsuit against the US airline, saying lax security led to his son's death, his lawyer said yesterday.

Cincinnati-based lawyer Stanley Chesley said the suit was filed in Detroit on Thursday on behalf of petro station owner Nazir Jaafer, whose 20-year-old son Khalid was killed in the crash of

Flight 103 last week.

### Police officer with a dog walks past the Pan Am check-in counter at London's Heathrow airport. Security at Heathrow has been stepped up following the downing of the Pan Am jet over Scotland. (Reuters wirephoto)



A police officer with a dog walks past the Pan Am check-in counter at London's Heathrow airport. Security at Heathrow has been stepped up following the downing of the Pan Am jet over Scotland. (Reuters wirephoto)

In London, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said today no revenge should be taken for the bombing of the Pan American airliner.

"I do not think an eye for an

eye or a tooth for a tooth is ever valid. I can understand the anger. We feel the anger very deeply," Thatcher said in an interview on the independent television channel TV-AM.

## Pakistan, India sign nuclear ...

(Continued from Page 1)

relations between India and Pakistan were flawed," said Benazir. "There was an air of mutual suspicion, and it was this that was an obstacle between the two countries."

Rajiv said after returning to New Delhi: "I had very good talks with (Pakistani) Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto — very long talks."

### Track

"I felt that there is definitely a mood on both sides to try and get things back on track and normalize the situation between our two countries."

The two leaders had eight hours of talks during the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC) meeting which ended in the Pakistani capital yesterday.

Rajiv made a clear comparison between Benazir and Zia.

"I can also say with confidence that we believe PPP (Benazir's Pakistan People's Party) policies will be much better than the earlier policies on the more difficult areas," he said.

Rajiv said India was prepared to cut its military expenditure if there were progress on issues including Kashmir and Punjab.

India has long claimed that Pakistan arms and harbours Sikh separatist guerrillas fighting in Punjab.

Replying to a question on the issue, Rajiv stated that Benazir "said very clearly that they (Pakistan) are not for interfering in our internal affairs — and I believe she means it."

The leaders of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka vowed to fight drug abuse and drug trafficking.

In the "Islamabad declaration," the SAARC leaders "expressed grave concern" over growing drug abuse and trafficking, particularly the serious effects it had on youth.

### Eradicate

"They recognised the need for urgent and effective measures to eradicate this evil," said the 13-page document presented to the closing session of the group's fourth annual summit.

The declaration said 1989 would be the "SAARC year for combatting drug abuse and drug trafficking."

The declaration called for the introduction of more effective laws to fight drugs and raised the possibility of a regional convention on drug control.

The leaders said a rise in military spending was a major constraint on world development and urged that resources saved through disarmament measures should be diverted in particular to developing countries for development.

They vowed to improve the lives of the poor by the year 2000.

## More than 100 feared dead in Rio shipwreck

RIO DE JANEIRO, Jan 1. (Reuters): Over 100 people were believed to have died when a passenger boat capsized off Copacabana beach just after midnight, a Brazilian Coast Guard spokesman said today.

The action involving a sitting President and his successor was unprecedented in US history, government officials said.

"We did receive it," Justice Department spokesman Loye Miller said of the written legal order directing Bush and Reagan to appear in court and give testimony. "There's one for the President and one for the vice president. We received it at mid-afternoon." The subpoenas were received by Robert Ross, the executive assistant to US Attorney General Dick Thornburgh, Miller said.

### Significant

A statement released by the White House press office in Palm Springs, California, where Reagan is on vacation, said, "the Justice Department spokesman Loye Miller said of the written legal order directing Bush and Reagan to appear in court and give testimony. "There's one for the President and one for the vice president. We received it at mid-afternoon." The subpoenas were received by Robert Ross, the executive assistant to US Attorney General Dick Thornburgh, Miller said.

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The Stockholms district court yesterday ordered that the man be further detained after hearing new evidence against him.

"We hope to have our charges ready by Jan 13," chief prosecutor Anders Helin said afterwards.

The half-hour private hearing was delayed because the suspect, who cannot be named under Swedish law, refused to leave his prison cell and attend the court.

Reagan spokesman, said Reagan had known since Wednesday that it was likely he would be subpoenaed. White House Chief of Staff Kenneth Duberstein told Reagan on Friday morning that the subpoena would be delivered during the afternoon.

Duberstein said the subpoena was delivered during the afternoon.

Bush aides confirmed that the President-elect had received a subpoena on Friday.

Bush Press Secretary Sheila Tait said Bush was going ahead with his weekend relaxation at the presidential retreat at Camp David, Maryland, and planned no meetings to discuss the trial matter.

The prosecution has until Jan 13 to press formal charges against the suspect, in which case a trial date must be set, or apply for another 14-day remand extension.

The operation is expected to cost about \$300,000. More than one-third of that has been raised by friends and family and a plea for money by Florida Gov. Bob Martinez.

Calvin's tearful father, Carlos Oliveira, said: "We're very optimistic,"

"Everybody thought there wouldn't be any hope any more, but there was always hope

## 907 honoured by the Queen

## Brittan knighted

LONDON, Jan 1. (AP): From a beekeeper and a mailman to a Rothschild and three Olympic gold medallists, the humble and the powerful were rewarded yesterday for good works and political loyalty in that grand old British tradition, the Queen's New Year honours list.

Sculptor Eduardo Paolozzi is knighted, as is Leon Brittan, the former Trade and Industry secretary who resigned in controversy in 1986.

Michael Holroyd, biographer of George Bernard Shaw, becomes a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE), as do actor Ian Richardson and Christopher Hogwood, director of the Academy of Ancient Music.

Queen Elizabeth II bestowed 907 titles and medals — most of them to people selected by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government for the twice-yearly expression of gratitude. They will be joined in June by hundreds more from the Queen's birthday list.

Although critics say the ancient honours tradition has been tarnished by political patronage, a barony, a knighthood or a British empire medal is still a glittering prize to be treasured for life and remembered with pride by one's descendants.

Baronies and baronesses are addressed as lords and ladies and can sit in parliament's unelected House of Lords in the company of Britain's two commissioners on the European Economic Community's administrative body.

The government, underlining Mrs Thatcher's new commitment to conservation, recommended honours for several guardians of the environment this year. The highest goes to Cambridge University chemistry professor Jack Lewis, who chaired a commission on environmental pollution. He becomes a life baron.

### families

Knights are addressed as Sir, and their female equivalents are Dames. An officer of the order of the British empire gets to add OBE after his or her name.

There is no cash reward but to

many the rise in status is price-

less. For the public at large, it is an occasion to reflect on heroes both sung and unsung, like Domingos Joseph, Diogo Teodoro Pinto. The Northern Ireland doctor got an OBE for leading the medical team that treated casualties in an Irish Republican Army bombing that killed eight soldiers.

This power to confer vanity



Medical personnel treat victims of firecracker blasts at a Manila hospital. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Bangladeshis flock to Iran for jobs

DHAKA, Jan 1. (Reuter): Abject poverty and widespread unemployment have forced up to 10,000 Bangladeshis to take up illegal residence in Iran, Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud said today.

"We have only 2,000 expatriate nationals working in Iran under legal permits but there are up to 10,000 others staying there illegally," he told a news conference.

Mahmud said Iran was considering a request he made during a recent visit to Tehran that the 10,000 be granted legal residence and work permits.

Mahmud paid a three-day visit to Tehran from Dec 30, before flying to the Pakistani capital of Islamabad for the fourth summit of the South Asian Association For Regional Co-operation (SAARC).

Bangladesh earned \$600 million from remittances from more than half a million expatriate workers during the fiscal year that ended last June.

## Earthquake

LIMA, Jan 1. (UPI): An earthquake shook the capital of Lima today, killing some residents but causing no damage, or injuries, authorities said.

## Thousands of Filipinos made homeless by fires

MANILA, Jan 1. (AP): Illegal fireworks injured 532 people and triggered six fires in Manila during New Year's revelry, leaving thousands of families homeless in the New Year, police and doctors said today.

Four people were stabbed in brawls in Cebu, (376 kilometres) southeast of Manila, hospital authorities reported.

Fire raged through a slum neighbourhood in Manila's Sta Mesa district, killing at least one person and destroying 3,000 makeshift houses, said arson investigator Edgar Espejano.

Hundreds of houses and apartments also were burned in five other fires in which no casualties were reported, he said.

### War zone

"All of these fires were started by firecrackers that lit light materials of houses," Espejano said.

Also in Cebu, the nation's second-largest metropolis, at least 86 people were treated in government hospitals after firecrackers exploded in their hands.

In Bulacan province, north of Manila, 33 people were injured in a frenzied revelry on New Year's eve, hospital authorities said.

"It's like a war zone here," said a government doctor, on condition of anonymity. "Fingers are

being amputated. People are wounded by stray bullets. They are still coming in, and our records are still in shambles from last night."

A check with doctors at nine government and private hospitals in the capital area showed 532 people were wounded last night.

The manufacture, sale and use of firecrackers are illegal in the Philippines. But the ban is lightly enforced in a nation people traditionally have exploded firecrackers to usher in the New Year and celebrate other festivals.

Ten teen-agers were arrested yesterday after setting off firecrackers in streets, said Col. Leonardo Orig, operations chief of the capital command. They were later released to their parents, Orig said.

On Friday, US serviceman Sgt Michael Kaleda, 29, and a 10-year-old Filipino boy were killed when a homemade firecracker prematurely exploded in the American's house outside Clark Air Base. Four other Filipinos and a clandestine firecracker factory in Bulacan province, centre of the country's fireworks industry, accidentally blew up its entire neighbourhood on Thursday, killing 11 people and injuring 20 others.

### Seoul seeking public opinion about unity plan

## S. Korea proposes confederation

SEOUL, Jan 1. (UPI): South Korea will propose a reunification plan that includes the creation of a confederation with North Korea and a neutral head of state, a news report said today.

The government denied that a confederation formula has been adopted. "Authorities are in the process of seeking a wide range of public opinions to formulate a new unification policy," a government spokesman said.

Another published report said government officials are studying a plan to build an industrial estate in the Demilitarized Zone dividing the communist North and pro-democratic South. Under the plan the rival Koreas could build joint-venture factories in the estate, it said.

The Korean peninsula is technically still in a state of war since fighting ended in 1953 between the North and South. The two sides have held periodic talks throughout the 1980s on reunification but negotiations have bogged down on various issues.

## China takes away nude paintings

## Takeshita takes blame for cabinet resignations

TOKYO, Jan 1. (AP): Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita said today that he is to blame for the resignations of four of his cabinet ministers, two of them because of links to a political scandal during the last month.

He also said at an annual New Year's news conference that he hoped Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev would come to Tokyo this year for the first visit to Japan ever by a top Soviet leader.

Takeshita's cabinet has taken a beating in recent weeks despite the Prime Minister's success last month in winning parliament's approval for comprehensive tax-reform legislation.

Justice Minister Takashi Hasegawa resigned on Friday — only three days after he was appointed in a cabinet shakeup — after it was revealed he had received political donations for years from a company involved in a stock-trading scandal.

Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa stepped down in early December after repeatedly chan-

ging his explanation of a close side's purchase of unlisted shares of a company's real-estate subsidiary at bargain prices.

The director of the National Land Agency stepped down in May after he created a controversy by claiming Japan was not responsible for World War II, and the chief of the Defence Agency resigned to take responsibility for a Navy submarine's collision with a fishing boat. Thirty people died in the crash.

"I am solely to blame for four ministers resigning," Takeshita said. "Somehow we have to regain the public's trust."

In foreign affairs, Takeshita has tried to keep US-Japanese relations at the centre of his foreign policy but said he would expand Japan's diplomacy toward the Soviet Union, Asia and the Pacific region.

He said he would focus attention on increasing Japan's contributions to world peace, cultural exchanges and economic assistance.

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## Mujahedeen reject ceasefire

## Soviets observe Afghan truce

MOSCOW, Jan 1. (Reuters): Soviet troops will join Afghan government forces in observing a unilateral ceasefire from today in their war against Afghan Muslim guerrillas, the Soviet Foreign Ministry said.

The Pakistan-based rebels have dismissed the ceasefire as a ruse designed to ensure the survival of the Soviet-backed government in Kabul of President Najibullah.

Najibullah said on Friday he had ordered Afghan government forces to refrain from fighting from Sunday unless attacked. He gave the rebels until Jan 4 to respond.

### Delay

The Soviet Foreign Ministry said: "The Soviet Union fully supports this peace move of the Afghan leadership and, for its part, declares that all units of Soviet forces that remain in Afghanistan will observe a ceasefire from the same date."

The Soviet Union, whose forces moved into Afghanistan in

December 1979, is committed under UN-sponsored accords signed in Geneva last April to withdrawing its troops by February.

Moscow has temporarily halted its withdrawal, charging the United States and Pakistan with violating the UN-sponsored accords by supplying the rebels with weapons. But US State Department officials say they expect the Kremlin to remove its remaining 50,000-60,000 soldiers by Feb 15.

"Life has convincingly shown that it is impossible to solve Afghan problems with weapons in hand," the Soviet Foreign Ministry statement said.

"The alignment of forces is such that a continuation of hostilities would lead only to more bloodshed and unjustified loss of life and would add to the hardships and sufferings of the entire Afghan people."

The statement repeated Moscow's willingness to halt arms supplies to the Afghan government from today if the United

States stopped delivering weapons to the guerrillas.

"If the goodwill does not meet a constructive response, it will be clear to the whole world who bears the full responsibility for the continuation of the fratricidal war in Afghanistan," it said.

### Concern

Meanwhile, UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has expressed concern over the slow pace of movement towards a peaceful settlement in Afghanistan and urged an intra-Afghan dialogue aimed at setting up a broad-based government.

In a statement issued through a spokesman, he expressed concern at the continuous suffering and plight of Afghans both inside and outside the country, with millions displaced and refugees.

"While welcoming the recent positive steps towards a promotion of a peaceful settlement, the secretary-general expresses also his concern at the slow pace of the developments in that direction," the statement said.

"Accordingly he appeals to all Afghans to spare no efforts and take the necessary steps towards an intra-Afghan dialogue for the establishment of a broad-based government and the creation of the necessary conditions of peace and normalcy that would enable the Afghan refugees to return voluntarily to their homeland in safety and honour."

End

Perez de Cuellar said he hoped 1989 would see the end of the long and tragic war in that country and that it will be a year of peace, reconstruction and rehabilitation.

Soviet-backed Afghan President Najibullah on Friday declared a unilateral ceasefire in the 10-year-old war against Muslim guerrillas starting on Jan 1, but this was not referred to in the secretary-general's statement.

The Pakistan-based rebels have vowed to fight on until all Soviet troops withdraw from Afghanistan and Najibullah's government is overthrown.

## 61 militant students arrested in Assiut

ASSIUT, Egypt, Jan 1. (Reuters): Sixty-one Muslim militants were arrested after reports of attacks on students and murder threats against staff at Egypt's Assiut University, police sources said today.

Witnesses said heavily-armed riot police ringed the campus, 380 km (240 miles) south of Cairo, where the sources said 13 students were detained on Thursday and 48 more militants on Saturday.

The police sources also said precautions were being taken throughout mainly Muslim Egypt to protect churches and mosques in case Muslim militants tried to create trouble during New Year celebrations.

Assiut University president Abdel Razzaq Hassan told reporters students who caused unrest might be expelled. Police detained 55 militant students last week in Assiut, a centre of Islamic fundamentalism.

Akbar El Yom newspaper said militants had attacked students with chains, jackknives, batons and whips in 16 assaults in the town in the past 40 days.

The paper quoted agriculture Professor Mohammed Abdel Salam as saying most students and members of the teaching staff had received threats of murder and kidnapping from militants.

"They have threatened to kidnap our children and said they would kill us ... even the dean received similar threats," he was quoted as saying.

Muslim fundamentalists believe in strict Islamic sharia laws and say all Muslims must observe them.

The dean of Assiut's agriculture faculty, Farouk Khalil, quoted by Akbar El Yom, said the government was too lenient on the militants and staff had asked the authorities for permission to carry guns for protection.

## Mahdi seeks resignation of President

## Protest strikes end in Sudan

KHARTOUM, Jan 1. (Reuters): Sudanese Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi sought the resignation of the head of state as riot police were ordered to maintain guard on key buildings in Khartoum after a nationwide strike and days of unrest.

Swat Al Umma, the official paper of Mahdi's Umma Party, said Mahdi asked for the resignation of Supreme Council president and head of state Ahmed Ali Al Mirghani, a member of the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) which quit the government on Wednesday.

Hundreds of thousands of people went back to work in the capital on Saturday after striking in protest at price rises which the government rescinded on Thursday, three days after imposing the strike.

Police with machine-guns and teargas canisters on Saturday remained on guard outside the

cabinet's offices and other riot police were stationed at sensitive points elsewhere in the city.

Tens of thousands of people took to the streets after the price rises were announced on Monday. Some also protested at the government's failure peacefully to end the rebellion by the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) in the south.

In Cairo, travellers arriving by air from Khartoum said on Saturday the city was returning to normal after days of chaos.

"It was a total civilian mutiny. They cut water and electricity. The airport was closed, no trains, no food, no anything," said Sultan Shafaa, a 60-year-old Egyptian.

"In every place, every neighbourhood, there were demonstrations," he said.

## Benazir's old links with cinema

KARACHI, Jan 1: Benazir Bhutto, the first woman prime minister of Pakistan, has had a number of indirect links with Pakistani cinema. For instance, her late father Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the then minister for foreign affairs, had performed the opening ceremony on April 20, 1963 of Karachi's Bambino Cinema, which was then owned by Hakim Ali Zardari, who is now the father-in-law of Benazir.

Hakim Ali Zardari did not only own the Bambino but also the Scala Cinema and the site where Star Cinema is situated today. He also financed a Sindhi film 'Sorath' and was the owner of a film distribution concern Bambino Films. He was also a prominent leader of the film industry and chairman of the Pakistan Film Exhibitors' Association for several years.

Shereen Byoksky, writing as if she were a man, wrote of a super-shopper which she said was herself — "last summer my wife spent so much money in the shops of Woodstock, New York that they have renamed the town out-of-stock."

There are many personalities who still have some connection with the Pakistani cinema and are in the newly formed federal and provincial cabinets and are

members of the National, Provincial Assemblies and the Senate.

For instance, senator Javed Jabbar is a prominent film producer who made Pakistan's first and only English feature film 'Beyond The Last Mountain' in 1974. Its Urdu version 'Musafir' was also an experimental film and was sent for a few international festivals. Jabbar was one of the notable PTV comedies (in English and Urdu languages). Benazir has appointed him as minister of state for information and broadcasting.

Qayam Ali Shah, whose family owns a couple of cinemas in Sindh, was made chief minister of Sindh. He used to be federal minister in the late Bhutto's cabinet.

The new attorney general of Pakistan Yahya Bhatti is the

father of popular TV artistes Karim Bhatti and Zeba Bhatti. His daughter-in-law Huma is a prominent PTV artiste.

Benazir: links

NEW YORK, Jan 1. (Reuters): Isamu Noguchi, a Japanese-American sculptor who pioneered the use of simple organic form and whose work ranged from pure stone sculptures to theatre sets, died of heart failure on Friday at the age of 84.

In 1985 Noguchi became the first living sculptor since Rodin to have a museum dedicated to his work. The Isamu Noguchi Garden Museum in the borough of Queens contains some 250 sculptures, models, drawings and photos of his art work.

Noguchi, who was born in Los Angeles, went to Paris in 1920 on a Guggenheim fellowship and studied with Constantin Brancusi. He proceeded to the Far East in the early 1930s he produced ink drawings and terra cotta portraits.

In the 1960s, Noguchi's paper table lamps made him an important force in the increasingly popular area of Japanese paper sculpture and form.

## Chinese police storm 'African' guest house

BEIJING, Jan 1. (Reuters): Hundreds of Chinese police armed with electric prods and batons stormed a guest house where African students had barricaded themselves, forcing some of them back to their campuses in the city of Nanking.

African students contacted by telephone from Beijing today said that police beat some of the students before they were loaded on buses and taken away on Saturday.

Malaysia rejoins Security Council

UNITED NATIONS, Jan 1. (Reuters): Malaysia, which last served on the Security Council in 1965, becomes a member again on Jan 1 and its UN representative, Ambassador Razali Ismail, immediately takes over as president of the 15-nation body.

The presidency rotates monthly according to the English alphabetical order of the delegations and Malaysia succeeds Japan, which held the post during December.

Malaysia is one of five new council members elected by the General Assembly last October for two-year terms beginning on Jan 1. The others are Canada, Colombia, Ethiopia and Finland.

They replace Argentina, West Germany, Italy, Japan and Zambia whose terms expire at the end of 1988.

The other five non-permanent members, who remain on the council during 1989, are Algeria, Brazil, Nepal, Senegal and Yugoslavia.

The five permanent members, each with the power of veto, are the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, China and France.

The Africans had been brought there on Monday after violence flared on three Nanking

campuses where they had been studying.

"They divided us into small groups," said a student. "We were kept waiting outside

**Paper leak nullifies examination**

ENGLISH language examinations, in Jahra's educational area, have been cancelled by the Ministry of Education, according to reliable sources.

The decision was taken due to the fact that a teacher leaked the questions out to favoured students. The teacher admitted giving the questions to four pupils.

The undersecretary at the Ministry of Education immediately issued orders to nullify the relevant examination. The teacher and four boys were suspended and will be subjected to further punishment.

**Garages to take up vehicle testing**

KUWAIT'S Higher Traffic Council discussed the transferring of vehicle technical testing from the Traffic Department to a group of garages spread in different areas, a local daily reported.

The Traffic Department is to carry out the plan, alleviating its burdens, in co-operation with some garages next year, provided that the specific garages chosen will follow certain regulations set up by the department.

**New premises for Health Ministry**

THE Ministry of Public Health will receive its headquarters from the Ministry of Public Works by mid-next month, according to Yousef Al Ateeqi, the Assistant Undersecretary for Public Service Affairs at the Ministry of Public Health.

He said that the new premises in Sulaibikhat will soon be furnished and that a lot of effort was exerted on the design and implementation of the headquarters.

The Health Ministry's old building will be allocated to the Central Registration Department.

Ateeqi stated that the Health Ministry will construct specialised hospitals and a number of health centres with the co-operation of the Ministry of Public Works.

He also said that all physicians and nurses being brought in from abroad will be provided accommodation. Locally recruited staff though will not be provided living quarters.

The official further praised the health projects donated by local philanthropists, saying that some of them were of excellent standard. The Allergy Centre donated to the state by the late Abdul Aziz Al Rashid, the Cancer Centre donated by Hussain Makki Al Jumma, Hamed Al Issa's Kidney Transplant Centre and Thunayan Al Ghani's Centre for Digestive diseases were all exceptional, he said.

He added that several other centres donated by citizens will soon be completed, such as Abdul Aziz Al Babtain's Centre for Plastic Surgery, Mohammed Al Bahar's Centre for Ocular Diseases and Salem Al Ali's Centre for Speech Therapy and the Al Fayed Centre for Physiotherapy.

**Kuwait's sewers to be renovated**

A PROJECT for the renovation of Kuwait's sewers is currently being conducted by the Health Engineering Department at the Ministry of Public Works, according to a reliable source.

The project, which is still in its first stage will cost approximately KD16.5 million. Other projects also being implemented raises the total cost to KD22 million.

Future projects being planned include the expansion in quantities of treated water and preserving the environment. The expansion and renewal of Ardya's sewage water treatment station, will make it one of the biggest stations in Kuwait serving over 1,250,000 people.

**VACANCY**

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**MASS**

on Jan 2, 1989 at 5.30 pm at the Holy Family Church, Kuwait for the late Mrs Dolcie C. Fernandes expired on Nov 18, 1988 Mother of Lionel/Hazel Grandmother of Shown, Lee & Craig

**Howe arrives today for official talks**

LONDON, Jan 1, (KUNA): British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe will arrive in Kuwait tomorrow. He is due to hold discussions on regional and bilateral issues with his host, Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad and other senior ministers.

This will be the Howe's first trip to the region since the Gulf war ceasefire.

British officials said today that stepped up efforts to secure a lasting peace in the Middle East would feature high on Howe's agenda during his tour of the Gulf states.

They also observed that Britain enjoys excellent ties with the GCC nations. Bilateral matters including trade will also be among the main topics of the discussions.

The PLO's latest peace initiatives would be examined and Howe would restate his country's welcome of the moves undertaken by the organisation's Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Howe is expected during his visit to publicly chide Israel for not responding positively to opportunities for peace in the region created recently by Palestinian action following PNC resolutions in Algiers.

In addition, officials pointed out that prospects for permanent peace in the Gulf between Iran and Iraq would be dealt with during Howe's exchanges in Kuwait and Wafra.

According to his official programme the foreign secretary will spend a few hours on one of the British Royal Navy frigates on patrol in the Gulf.

He will emphasise in this connection that British naval ships would remain in the area as long as it was necessary.

The authorities had declared a two-day holiday and people took advantage of this short respite from work to live it up. Locals too pitched their tents on Kuwait's camping areas in Misrair and Wafra.

Church-goers attended services in their festive best yesterday and later met with friends and relatives to greet the new year with memories of happier occasions in their own countries.

Government offices and banks which were closed during the two-day holiday will resume work today.

At home people are free to mingle, dance, listen to music and photograph friends in a cheerful atmosphere.

A shopper, Alan Stephens, who has lived in Kuwait for the past five years said that the new year is a busy festive occasion and that at-home parties are popular because of the various restrictions on public gatherings and dancing.

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People in Kuwait celebrating the new year with parties at home.



People in Kuwait celebrating the new year with parties at home.

**People celebrate the new year at home**

By Lima Al Khalafawi

MANY expatriates embraced the new year by partying at home until the early morning hours yesterday. Many were, however, disappointed that they were not allowed to mark the occasion publicly because of the blanket ban on celebrations in public places.

The PLO's latest peace initiatives would be examined and Howe would restate his country's welcome of the moves undertaken by the organisation's Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Howe is expected during his visit to publicly chide Israel for not responding positively to opportunities for peace in the region created recently by Palestinian action following PNC resolutions in Algiers.

In addition, officials pointed out that prospects for permanent peace in the Gulf between Iran and Iraq would be dealt with during Howe's exchanges in the region.

Kuwait's public celebrations for Christmas and New Year to maintain the country's Islamic character. This year was, particularly dull since hotels were not allowed to let their in-house musicians to entertain the diners, many of whom ate in a tomb like silence.

Church-goers attended services in their festive best yesterday and later met with friends and relatives to greet the new year with memories of happier occasions in their own countries.

Government offices and banks which were closed during the two-day holiday will resume work today.

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## By screen reviewer

THESE was a film called 'New Delhi' made during the Fifties. It was a satire on linguistic chauvinism and segregation. It was also the most successful film of Mohan Segal with Kishore Kumar's comedy, Vijayantamala's dance and Shanker-Takshian's music as the highlights. The satire was very close to life and therefore plausible.

'New Delhi' made in 1988 is a songless film, which is a good thing considering the present standard of lyrics and compositions. But the good point almost ends here. The film is supposed to be an expose of our corrupt political system, but under the guise of the expose the film really offers a saga of gory violence. The story and screenplay serve only as a skeleton of framework for filling in the sequences of action and violence.

This is a sad pointer to the present progress of the industry. In the Fifties the worst film had a story which served as a framework for filling in the songs and dances. In the Eighties even the better made films have stories which serve as a framework for filling in scenes of action and violence, mostly senseless.

Technically 'New Delhi' is a well made film. Joshi's direction is superb and his exploitation of Delhi and Nainital locations is laudatory. It is the obvious that painstaking planning and execution have gone into the making of this film. But themewise it boils down to nothing more than a saga of revenge. The technique and speed of the film engage the interest of the viewer, but it is doubtful if the viewer would like to take a second look at the film.

The film is the tale of a fearless and dedicated journalist known as Vijay Kumar or VK.

## INDIAN VIDEO ROUNDUP

## New Delhi: a saga of gory violence



Jeetendra: good performance

He antagonises two powerful politicians, Shankar and Deshbandhu, as he exposes their misdeeds. The politicians commit a rape and they manage to get VK declared as mentally sick when he tries to expose them. In the mental hospital VK is maimed. The bones of his right hand, with which he wrote the powerful articles, and right leg are broken. When VK comes out of jail, Maria Fernandes, the girl who was raped by the politicians, comes to VK's help. She happens to be very rich. VK starts his own newspaper. He is successful as his front page stories contain news created by himself, so they become scoops. The headline news are about how VK gets his enemies killed one by one by a group of assassins who had become his admirers in jail.

Jeetendra as VK plays a role very different from those of his

usual image. It will be counted as one of the best performances of his career. The "jumping jack", for a change does not jump and dance but gives a power-packed performance. Sumalatha as Maria has a come-the-role. She is a good-looking lady and is a pleasant sight amidst all those beastly men fighting with one another. Vincent's camera work is captivating. Shyam's background score keeps up the tempo of the film.

## 'Qatil'

The makers of 'Qatil' had good intentions. They made a film with comparative newcomers, and they tried to make a film on a different kind of story. But mere good intentions are not enough. They started the film on one track, then went to another track, and reached nowhere.

The film is a story of three

friends and a prostitute who is murdered in the wilderness in the first scene. The prostitute is eliminated but her spirit remains throughout the film. Among the three friends, one is a police inspector, another is a reporter and the third is a law student. The murder of the prostitute is reported by the reporter even before the police has registered a case of murder. The police inspector is rebuked by the commissioner on this account and for the reason that he is not able to find the criminal.

The law student has strong views on capital punishment and agitates for his abolition. The law student's father is a public prosecutor, and he is a strong advocate of capital punishment as he is convinced that it is in the interest of the society that such criminals be eliminated.

The law student's contention is that justice is not always just as it can be tempered by false evidence and shrewd lawyers. Often innocent persons are convicted, and as such the ultimate penalty of death should be abolished. To prove his point the law student poses as the murderer of the prostitute. He creates all the evidence against him and all the defence. He entrusts the defence material to his journalist friend. The law student's plan is that he would be convicted then in the appeal he would bring out the defence, and he would be acquitted, and thus he would prove his point. But his friend cheats him. There is supposed to be a bit of suspense in the film, so the murderer should

not be revealed.

The storyline appears reasonably good when written in brief, but it is ridiculous the way it has been developed by writers Ravi Kapoor and Mohan Kaul. When a person creates evidence against himself and then confesses in the court that he is the murderer, the court is bound to believe him. The insanity of the person, and not the court or the law, is to be blamed for the wrong judgement. The first half of the film is a conflict of views, and the second half becomes an action film, and the view is as confused as the filmmakers.

## Best performance

Among the performers, Raza Murad does look like a public prosecutor and gives the best performance in the film. Kiran Kumar is also adequate as the police inspector. Shakti Kapoor looks as much of a journalist as a well dressed street goonda. Aditya Pancholi passes off as a law student who is on the campus for good time but not as an intense young man with humane feelings. Sangeeta Bijlani is the heroine of the film who is loved by the hero and the villain. She is a cold beauty who will have to go through numerous films to be moulded into an actress.

Anwar Siraj's photography is pleasing to the eye. Ashok Galkar's direction is of the routine kind. Laxmikant and Pyarelal remain in their uninspired mood. Young lyricist Sameer is picking up the basic elements of song writing, and he has almost reached the current level of today's top writers.

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

## KTV 1

## MORNING

9.00 Opening, Holy Quran, programme preview  
9.10 Good Morning  
9.15 Cartoons  
9.45 A re-run for News D'Actualite  
10.00 Local Serial: Bat Boukhaled  
12.00 Local Programme: Kuwait Al Ams Introduced by: Jasem Al Ghariib  
12.50 Variety Show  
1.00 News in Brief  
1.05 Closedown, Holy Quran

## EVENING

4.00 Opening, Holy Quran, programme preview  
4.15 A re-run for the World Via Satellite  
4.45 Cartoon serial: Bombo  
5.25 Mama Anisa and the children  
5.45 Variety Show  
6.00 Historical Arabic Series: Liqa' Fi Eth-akira  
7.00 News in Brief  
7.05 Official announcements (pharmacies and airines)  
7.15 Variety Show  
7.30 Local Programme: Attafona Walmusataqbal

8.30 Good Evening  
9.00 News in Arabic  
9.40 A Song  
9.45 Arabic Serial: Dawar Ya Zaman (Part 2)  
10.50 Local Programme: Fan Wafik (Part 1) prepared and introduced by: Amal Abdullah  
12.00 News Briefs  
12.05 World Today Via Satellite  
12.20 Close down

## KTV 2

6.00 Opening Announcement & Holy Quran  
6.10 Bionic Six, a cartoon series for children  
6.30 Chocky, David and his wife plan to proceed on a business trip to the Far East when their eldest son has a headache... then the matter develops into unexpected dimensions...  
7.00 Roving Report, A weekly round-up of local, Arab and international news, events and activities  
7.30 Perspective, A look at life secrets... forests, people and grass... the role played by

laboratories and natural sciences in this respect...

8.00 News in English  
8.30 A Different World, "Dennis" returns to school after her summer holiday where she meets with her school mates and everyone starts discussing their holidays.

9.30 Rediscovery of the World, A look at New Zealand's sea-shores and the fishing industry...

10.00 Hitchcock, A singer is attacked by his competitors and plans to avoid them by alleging that he is dead...  
10.30 French Film: "La Chambre 17", Starring: Anna Karine, Philip Leonard, Jack Maran, A criminal starts killing his childhood friends one after the other... a police inspector starts investigating the case.

11.30 News in Brief  
11.40 Magazine D'Actualite

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

## RADIO PROGRAMMES

## BBC World Services

0900 World News  
09 British Press Review  
15 Good Books  
30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup  
45 Andy Kershaw's World of Music  
1000 News Summary followed by 2nd with Good Reason; 9th The Art of the Weatherman; 16th Boy Soldiers; 23rd and 30th The International Arms Trade  
2000 World News  
05 British Press Review  
15 Andy Kershaw's World of Music  
30 Science in Action  
0300 World News  
09 News about Britain  
15 Good Books  
30 Anything Goes  
0400 Newsdesk  
30 Five William Stories (ex 23rd and 30th Dangerous in Love)  
45 Nature Now  
0500 World News  
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary  
30 Waveguide  
40 Words of Faith  
45 Recording of the Week  
0600 Newsdesk  
30 With Good Reason; 9th The Art of the Weatherman; 16th Boy Soldiers; 23rd and 30th The International Arms Trade  
0700 World News  
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary  
30 Monarchs (ex 23rd Gypsies; 30th W B Yeats: The Last Romantic)  
1400 Outlook, opening with 5-Minute News  
45 My Grandfather (ex 30th Reading)  
1500 Newsdesk  
15 A Question of Science (ex 2nd Feature)  
1600 World News  
09 News about Britain  
15 2nd Sportsworld; 9th and 16th Five William Stories; 23rd and 30th Dangerous in Love  
30 Health Matters (ex 2nd Sportsworld contd)  
45 The World Today (ex 2nd Sportsworld contd)  
1700 World News  
09 Words of Faith  
15 Five William Stories (ex 23rd and 30th Dangerous in Love)  
30 Anything Goes

1800 Newsdesk  
30 Multitrack 1: Top 20  
1900 Outlook, opening with News Summary  
25 Financial News  
30 Network UK  
45 Poems by Post (ex 30th W B Yeats: Readings from the Poems)  
2000 World News  
09 The World Today  
25 Words of Faith  
30 The Vintage Chart Show  
2100 News Summary followed by Sports Roundup  
15 Europe's World  
30 Sports International  
2200 Newsdesk  
2300 World News  
09 Commentary  
15 The Learning World  
30 Multitrack 1: Top 20

## ALL TIMES GMT

**English**  
Morning  
0800 Opening  
0802 Songs and Music  
0805 Science Journal  
0830 News  
0840 Songs and Music  
0845 Daily Programme  
0900 Songs and Music  
0915 Writers and Their Works  
0930 Radio Magazine Supplement  
1000 Our Press Today  
1005 Songs and Music  
1100 Closdown  
1130 News on FM Service  
Evening  
2100 Opening  
2102 Bits and Bytes  
2130 News  
2145 Point of View  
2155 Songs and Music



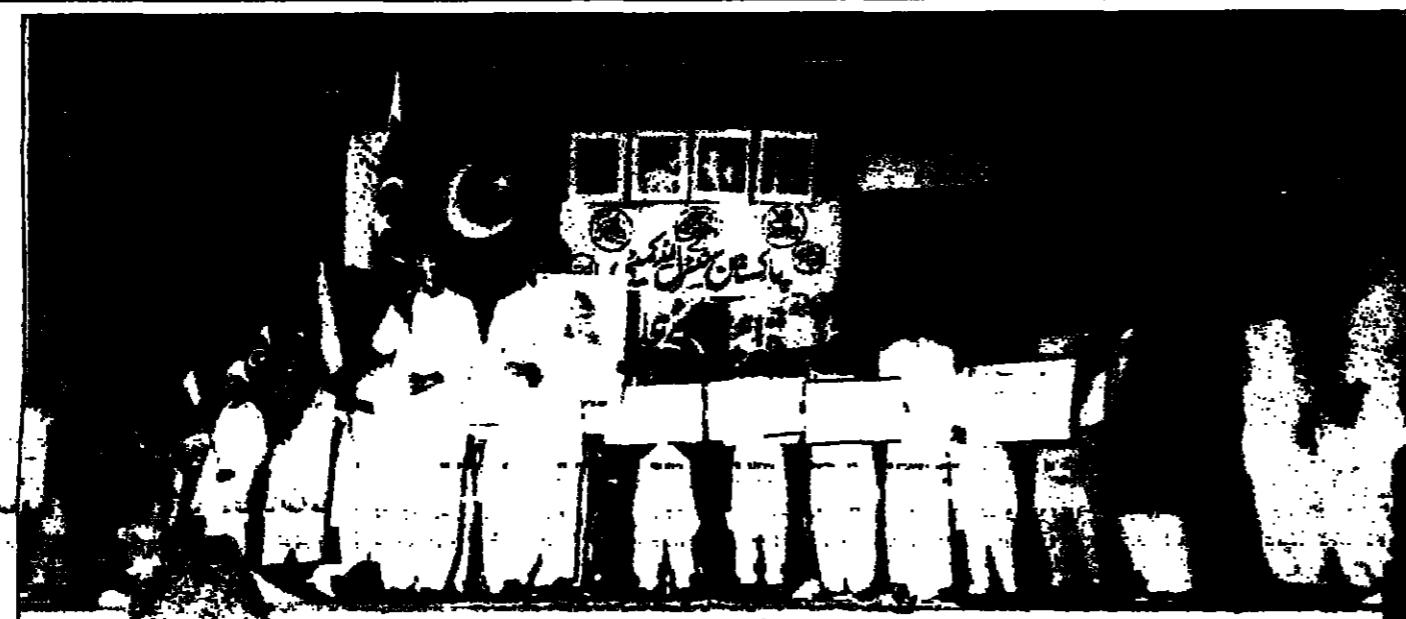
## KALA celebrates 10th anniversary

THE Kerala Art Lovers Association (KALA), celebrated the 10th anniversary of its founding with a painting competition for children at the Indian embassy premises on Friday. The competition was inaugurated by the Principal A.K. Goel, of the Indian School, Salimiyah. It was followed by a colourful variety programme which included regional dances and a Keralite traditional play Chantham. KALA has created a strong audience for its various cultural and art programmes. Picture above shows children doing their paintings. A view of traditional dance (left).

• All entries for the What's On column must be handed over personally to Events Section, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

## Quaid-e-Azam birthday

THE Pakistan Central Aid Committee celebrated the birth anniversary of the founder of Pakistan, Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah at the Labour Union Hall in Hawalli on Friday. Pakistani Ambassador Zahir Saeed was the chief guest. Students from the local Pakistani schools participated in the programme which included patriotic songs, and speeches on the life and work of Jinnah. Pakistani poets also paid tribute to Quaid-e-Azam. (Photo: Javed Basra)



## WHAT'S ON

## ARTS

## Kuwait Science Museum

DAILY: 5 pm onwards: natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Friday: 9 am onwards.

## Islamic Arts Museum

SAT — THURS: 8.30 am to 12.30 pm and 4.30 to 7.30 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment. Arabian Gulf St.

## Tareq Rajab Museum

SAT — THURS: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Fridays: 9 am to noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

## Sadu House

SAT — THURS: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

## Sultan Gallery

ANN EID: Photographs of Kuwait, on show at the gallery. Thamani Al Ghanem Bldg. Al Soor St. Open daily from 5-8pm.

Qasr Al Sharq

First personal exhibition of Kuwaiti artist Awatif Al Shatty will be opened on Tuesday, Jan

19. The exhibition will continue until Jan 24 from 9 am to 12.30 pm and from 4 pm to 8.30 pm.

## Kuwait Society for Formative Arts

DAILY: 5 pm onwards: general exhibition from Jan 27.

The society will accept the works of arts by Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti plastic artists who are interested in participating in the exhibition. Only three works as a maximum shall be accepted from each artist. The works should have never been exhibited in Kuwait. Replicas and copies shall not be accepted. Artists are invited to deliver their works at the premises of the society in Hawalli daily between 5 and 8 pm. Closing date is Jan 20.

## THEATRE

JAN 6: 5 pm. IAC presents full-length Tamil play entitled "Unnaiye Unn Vilai Enna?" (Truth: What is the Price?) Directed by C.K.V. Raman. For guest passes call 3904817; 390379; 4881359; 5616930.

## Kokkan Drama

JAN 13: 3 pm. Labour Union Hall, Hawalli. The Goa Cultural Association presents Kokkan drama entitled "Tujem Sukho Mozo Dusman," written and directed by Rex de Bardez. The cast includes the

Mendes Brothers, Anthony and guest-stars from Goa — William de Cunior and S. Lemos. For details contact the GCA members.

Kuwait Players

KUWAIT Players present the Gala Night on Jan 17 of their New Year musical fantasy "Alice in Wonderland" at the Universal American School, Salwa. Performance on Jan 18 and 25 at 6.30 pm. Jan 19 and 26 at 3 pm. Jan 20, 3 pm, 5.30 pm. Mad Hatters tea party Jan 27 at 4 pm. Tickets are now on sale. Tel: 5726048, 5637749.

Mando Festival

KUWAIT Konkan Kendra will organise a Mando Festival very shortly for the first time in Kuwait. Any group interested in taking part in the contest may please contact any of KKK executive body members by the end of January, 1989 or telephone 2644983.

SOCIAL

AI Dana Restaurant Wednesday — Sea drama on ice: enjoy fresh fish, seafood specials highlighted on ice crystals.

CINEMA

AI Andalus  
Aliens  
Starring: Bredman, James Cameron  
Al Salmiya  
(Booked for whole week)

Al Hamra

Ganga Jamuna Saraswathi  
Starring: Amitabh Bachchan  
Drive-In  
Youn Hui Youn Mour (Arabic)

Starring: Fatin Hamama, Mohammad Munir

Fahabeel (Open Air)  
Nasibat (Hindi)

Ennu Nadhaate (Nimmi)

(Malayalam)

Al Jashra

The Comeback  
Granada  
Red Heat  
Salsabikhat

Malaf Samiya Sha'rawi, (Arabic film)

Jeeb Al Shyookh

Oru Sindooraapottentu

Oru Sindooraapottentu (Malayalam)

Al Firdous

Oner Preme One Jawab

Ahmadi Drive-In

Yanks

Nirjhar Cultural Group

THE Nirjhar Cultural Group will stage a cultural show on Jan 6, 1989 at the Al Andalus Hall of the Holiday Inn at 6 pm to celebrate Bangladesh's Victory Day. For invitation cards please call Firoz Tel. 4310483.

HOTELS

At the Ramada

AL BENDAR coffee shop offers Continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner; 6 am to midnight; a la carte available.

Thursday: BBQ Night at Le Mirage Night Club, with full buffet and entertainment by the Al Arzz Band.

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# ARAB TIMES

## Thought for today

A HAPPY life must be to a great extent a quiet life, for it is only in an atmosphere of quiet that true joy can find.

—Bertrand Russell, British philosopher (1872-1970).

## OPINION

### Israel is the culprit

WHO bombed the Pan Am plane? It remains a mystery. The Pan Am explosion occurred soon after Yasser Arafat's true and direct declaration renouncing terrorism. It came after the ceasefire in the Gulf and after outside operations had stopped. It also followed the agreement of all the nations in the UN, to shift the General Assembly deliberations on the Palestine issue to Geneva to hear the PLO leader's speech.

The speech was heard, supported and sympathised with. The entire world began to put pressure on Israel to agree on an international peace conference. It is Israel alone who rejects holding the conference, simply because it does not want the peace the world wants. It only wants the peace that complies with fanatical Jewish ideology.

Returning to our question, who really bombed the Pan Am jumbo? Israel, naturally, is aware of how such an incident will affect the US public sympathy. The side which bombed the plane, if known, will surely gain the US public opinion's enmity. Israel also realises that US public opinion, and the administration are fed up with the Jewish nation's practices, behaviour and illogical demands. This has reached the extent that any American action in favour of Israel, is leading to exactly the opposite result.

The US, for example, responded to the Israeli demand by not going ahead with the arms deal with Saudi Arabia, resulting in Saudi buying arms from the UK and China under better conditions. US also positively responded with the Israeli demand in not granting the PLO chairman a visa so that he could address the UN General Assembly in New York. The session was afterwards shifted to Geneva, harming US prestige.

The US has become tired of illogical Israeli demands and in turn Israel has started feeling that the US public opinion has begun to put pressure on its administration. The US-Israeli relations needed something that would support Israel's claim that it holds the key to stability in the Middle East and that it represents the US interests.

So, Israel exploded the American plane. Such a neat and accurate operation is neither an Arab one nor carried out by any Middle East country. It aimed at implying that as long as terrorism exists, peace will remain very far. Israel, which allowed reckless people to kill its ambassador in London in 1982 to use it as a pretext to invade and occupy parts of Lebanon, will never hesitate to do anything else.

Present Israeli leaders are the colleagues and sons of the leaders of the Jewish terrorist gang, who before 1948 killed many Britons, by blowing up the King David Hotel in Jerusalem to force the English withdraw from Palestine and declare the establishment of Israel.

The blowing up of the Pan Am plane is an Israeli action. Its main purpose is to influence the US public opinion and force it to abandon its quest to achieve peace in the Middle East. However, Israel will not succeed in its game this time. The world cannot be fooled by a simple telephone call to a news agency claiming that a certain organisation carried out the bombing. Such calls are no longer effective.

In addition, the men of the Middle East today, really insist in achieving peace and in holding the international peace conference, despite Israeli behaviour.

In the future, we will find out that those who bombed the US aeroplane, to kill the Americans are the same people who blew up the King David Hotel to kill the British. This is because the fanatic Israel feels that what Hitler committed is a debt on the whole free world and it avenges whenever an opportunity arises.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

## Romanians shiver through winter

By Colin McIntyre

BUCHAREST, (Reuter): There was not much cheer among Romania's hard-pressed consumers when electricity restrictions in force for the past six winters were eased recently.

When they had done their calculations, they found they could use one 40-watt bulb for an extra 10 minutes a day.

Small comfort when the average winter electricity allocation is enough to light a typical apartment for only two or three hours a day, and excludes the use of refrigerators or washing machines. Electric heaters have been banned for years.

Meanwhile central heating for Romanian households was cut to four and half hours a day, and hot water to between two and four hours, up to Dec 15.

From then until March 1, the coldest months of the year, households will be heated for seven hours a day, but the hot water ration has been extended by only half an hour a day.

**Close**

All shops and businesses must close by 5.30 in the afternoon, and restaurants by nine o'clock at night, to save electricity.

Public offices, schools and institutions are ordered to gear their opening times to make maximum use of daylight hours, but under a recent decree are allowed

to heat for a couple of hours on Sundays if there is a danger of the pipes freezing up.

Even the international terminal at Bucharest's Otopeni Airport is unheated. On a recent visit to Romania Western businessmen, muffled against the biting cold inside the building, scanned the boards anxiously for their flights as they swapped stories of trying to do business in chilly hotel rooms, offices and factories.

**Shortages**

For the sixth straight winter, Romanians are facing chronic shortages of everything, including food, as the country's autocratic leader, Nicolae Ceausescu diverts most of the country's resources to paying off its foreign debts.

Meanwhile imports have been cut to the barest essentials, and these do not include badly-needed new power-generating equipment to replace the country's antiquated stock.

Ceausescu decreed five years ago that the \$10 billion debt must be paid off in five years, and this has almost been achieved, though at a heavy price in human deprivation.

As virtually all fresh food is sold to the West for hard currency, Romanians wait in long queues for unsaleable parts such as pig's trotters and sheep heads, when they are available.

NEW YORK, (AP): The world changed quickly in 1988, and 1989 could present even more challenges for statesmen, economists and scientists.

The Middle East may see a major new peace effort. Mikhail Gorbachev is trying to make the pace of change in the Soviet Union even faster. China is making new contacts with Moscow, and Western Europe is looking forward to a new era of East-West detente.

Meanwhile, Latin America faces continued debt and economic stagnation, apartheid and economic backwardness are the key issues in Africa and burgeoning economies in Asia are remaking the map of world trade.

Scientists are facing the challenges of AIDS, and depletion of the earth's ozone layer and rain forests.

**Middle East**

The new US dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation holds the seeds of a possible breakthrough in settling the Arab-Israeli conflict.

One almost certain byproduct will be increased pressure on Israel, appalled at the formal US-PLO talks, to negotiate itself with Yasser Arafat's organisation. The PLO unilaterally declared a Palestinian state in 1988 in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. There will likely be hard bargaining over Arab, Soviet and European calls for an international Mideast peace conference attended by the PLO.

Iran is likely to continue its emerging policy of improving ties with the rest of the world, ending nine years of political isolation. That could improve the economic and political change within.

Outside the Soviet bloc, non-aligned Yugoslavia will be looking in the new year for ways to solve its economic crises and ease ethnic unrest.

**Western Europe**

Western Europe enters 1989 preoccupied with East-West arms control talks to unify its domestic market and a continuing flirtation with Mikhail Gorbachev.

West European leaders will likely meet with US President George Bush this spring at a summit of the 16-nation North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

By that time, the NATO allies may well have begun negotiations — called the conventional stability talks — with the seven Warsaw Pact nations on reducing conventional arms in Europe.

Meanwhile, the 12-nation European Economic Community will be working to mold itself into a single market by the end of 1992. That's when the nations are to remove many of the trade barriers separating them.

But the Soviet Union still has those missiles, and the superpowers are likely to work in 1989 to slash strategic arsenals in half on both the Soviet and American sides.

The main roadblock remains the US "Star Wars" programme to develop a space-based defence against missile attack. Gorbachev insists such a programme only opens a new, dangerous arena for the arms race, and makes reductions in offensive weapons impossible. Beyond that lie unresolved questions about how the two sides can fairly balance reductions in their inherently different land, sea and air weapons systems.

Meanwhile, Gorbachev is trying to develop new trade relationship throughout the world. The United States has moved more slowly than some nations in Asia and Western Europe to encourage an end to Soviet isolation and support development of a potentially powerful new Soviet market.

At home, Gorbachev faces the task of dealing with continued ethnic unrest, the aftermath of December's disastrous Armenian earthquake and a raft of domestic ecological problems only now receiving a full airing in the Soviet press.

He also will move in 1989 to create a new state structure, with a parliament and presidency more similar to those in the West and new measures to promote

By Alastair Lyon

AMMAN, (Reuter): The Arab world appears unmoved by an emerging Israeli campaign to revive the moribund Camp David accords as a basis for peace talks that would exclude the PLO.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, firing counter-blasts in a propaganda war over who is really seeking Middle East solutions, said on Sunday he was preparing a new peace plan.

Aides said Shamir would reiterate an offer of direct talks with Jordan, Egypt and non-PLO Palestinians, possibly with limited involvement of the two superpowers.

**Conference**

"Shamir is trying to plough the sea. It's absurd and nothing will come of it," said Asa'd Abdul Rahman, a member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's Central Council.

"He is singing alone in his bath, not listening to the wishes of the whole world. American Jewry or the 54 percent of Israelis who opinion polls say favour talks with the PLO."

Jordanian Information Minister Hani Khasawneh said on Wednesday his country's position was unchanged.

## In 1988 there were changes on several fronts

# Challenges lie ahead in 1989

more democratic decision-making in the government and economy.

**Eastern Europe**

Communist authorities in Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria are recognising a need for economic and perhaps political reform to modernise outmoded industries and keep consumer demands satisfied.

But new laws allowing more private and foreign investment in East bloc economies will not boost output unless the West agrees to make large loans and import or sell its advanced technology.

Some West European leaders have talked of a kind of "Marshall Plan" to help out Eastern Europe, where massive investment would be needed to provide modern housing and industry and clean up the heavily polluted environment.

Within East Europe, increasingly vocal and active independent groups are calling for broader civil rights and asking the West to use trade measures to help make their nations comply.

East Germany and Romania, for the time being, stand apart from the other nations of East Europe, rejecting most of the economic and political change their allies have embraced.

Outside the Soviet bloc, non-aligned Yugoslavia will be looking in the new year for ways to solve its economic crises and ease ethnic unrest.

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makes education and social welfare funds almost as sacred as defence dollars. Bush needs to find money to help thousands of homeless Americans and chip away at other social ills, including the drug crisis, the spread of AIDS and continued threats to the environment.

In foreign policy, Bush is looking toward continued advances in arms negotiations with the Soviet Union while maintaining a good relationship with US allies in Europe.

Now that the United States and the Palestine Liberation Organisation are on speaking terms, the new Bush administration will be under increasing pressure to use its influence for an all-encompassing Arab-American settlement.

Canada will be looking in the new year for reassurance from President Bush that it is trusted as an ally and valued as the United States' No. 1 trading partner. In a bruising campaign that gave Prime Minister Brian Mulroney his second consecutive majority government, the top issue was the now-signed free trade agreement with Washington.

Shackled by their debt obligations, their governments are looking north for reduced interest rates and other forms of financial relief. Such aid would be provided, they contend, that the United States, Japan and other wealthy countries are sincere in their pledge to back the continent's recently restored, but young and increasingly troubled democracies.

Central America

Central America will start the new year much as it started 1988 — with wars, deep economic problems and social and political instability.

The United States will have to decide whether to continue US funding for the Contra rebels in their attempt to oust the almost 10-year-old Sandinista government in Nicaragua. Shortly after his election, Bush indicated he might take a more diplomatic approach with the Sandinistas.

The majority of the Contras, backed by the United States since 1981, have moved into base camps in Honduras. Honduras, a strong US ally, wants the United States to get the rebels out.

In El Salvador, Marxist-led guerrillas appear more determined than ever to topple the US-backed government. Presidential elections in March could favour the conservative candidate from the National Republican Alliance, known as Arena, which has promised a major trade conflict over European limitations on the import of some US beef.

Western Europe is also likely to increase its economic and financial ties to the Soviet Union. A number of European banks have offered large amounts of credit to help the Soviets modernise their economy.

**North America**

President George Bush, who campaigned on the theme of continuing the "peace and prosperity" of Ronald Reagan's eight years in the White House, will be open to the new US administration in their attempt to oust the almost 10-year-old Sandinista government in Nicaragua. Shortly after his election, Bush indicated he might take a more diplomatic approach with the Sandinistas.

The federal government's budget deficit, projected at \$145 billion over the next 12 months, will be the No. 1 priority. The challenge is to get it down and sooth world financial markets, without raising taxes and without cutting defence spending too drastically.

Bush also has promised to be an "education president" and to an "gentler and kinder" nation. For budget cutters, that

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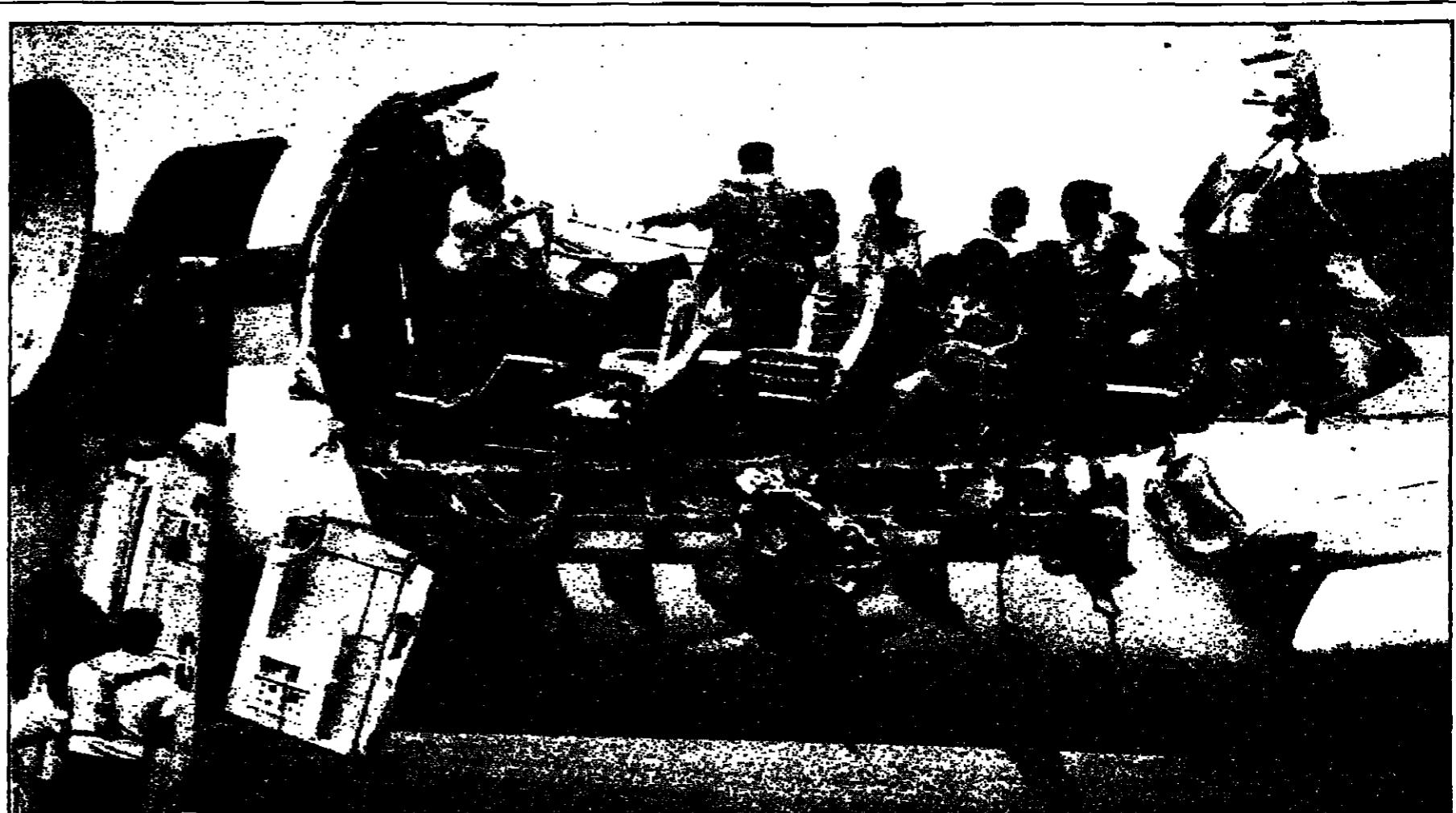
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The remains of a Yugoslav Airlines plane.



Missing a huge chunk of its roof, an Aloha Airlines 737 lands in Maui. The photo was taken by a passenger aboard the crippled jet, who scrambled to the tarmac.

## Air travel: just how safe is it?

BEFORE you travel by plane do you need a couple of tranquilisers to steady your nerves? Or do you pray as the plane taxis down the runway?

Is it all silly and superstitious, or do passengers have every reason to be nervous?

Although modern air travel is statistically safer than going by road, it is still not as safe as many people believe.

On more than one occasion all four engines have failed in mid-flight. There was even a time when the entire top of a Boeing 737 peeled away during take-off.

There has been an alarming increase in near misses involving commercial aircraft, but mid-air collisions are not the only hazards of flying. Hijackers, ageing aeroplanes, sabotage and overworked crews are just some of the other risks. These alarming revelations are made by veteran pilot Captain Laurie Taylor.

So how safe is air travel?

Captain Taylor told me at his home in Camberley, Surrey, England: "It's safer than travelling by car, motorcycle or even by bicycle, though not quite as safe as a train."

Even so, Laurie, aged 66, a pilot with the RAF for five years and with British Airways for nearly 30 years, says 1,000 people die in air crashes each year despite certain improvements in air safety.

Captain Taylor — awarded an OBE in 1973 for services to air and transport — maintains many of the hazards are actually caused by the airlines themselves in their quest for more passengers and profit.

He says: "Until recently planes that flew across oceans had to have three or four engines. Today, we fly across the Atlantic and the Pacific in two-engined aircraft. It's done to cut costs, but I consider it an irresponsible move."

Another hazard according to Captain Taylor are the new "combi" planes which carry both cargo and passengers on the main deck. It could be very risky if the cargo were dangerous chemicals.

But his major concern is ageing aircraft. He explains:

"Until jets were invented, aeroplanes became obsolete before they were worn out. Now we have planes which have reached the end of their design life."

### Claim

"Underneath the paintwork

they are becoming cracked and corroded, which is difficult to detect unless the paint is stripped away.

"Some of the finest Boeing 707s and 727s have gone past the end of their design life but are still being used. They would be safe if we could be sure the

ground engineers had repaired the cracks and corrosion, but the difficulty is finding them. Even X-rays have not detected all the faults."

Experts may claim there is little chance of an aircraft cracking up, but try telling that to the nine passengers who were 20,000 in the air when the top peeled off because of a crack.

Captain Taylor says: "That incident happened in the early eighties and some airlines still take risks and use aircraft aircraft way beyond their design life."

"One of the major reasons for this risk-taking is that there is no single standard of safety governing airlines. Each is largely responsible for making its own rules, which creates a huge disparity in standards."

If you fly in Britain, France or West Germany you are three times more likely to die in an air crash than in Scandinavia. And the risk of being involved in a fatal accident is 775 times higher in Colombia, S. America

than in Australia.

Captain Taylor says studies of 18 major countries show that Australia has the best safety record, followed by North America, Western Europe, Asia, South America and then Asia. He is also concerned about over-burdened air traffic control systems and crowded skies, combined with over-worked crews.

He explains: "Each country has its own air traffic control system. So, if you're flying from Malaga to Frankfurt, the pilot would talk to 11 different traffic controllers. It's a pretty archaic system which is why there are so many breakdowns in communication."

"We really need a single computerised European air traffic control system. It would reduce delays considerably and also prevent congestion becoming a safety problem. Crews and pilots have to wait around if there are delays and a lot of pilots have complained about falling asleep."

Captain Taylor, a former chairman of the British Airline Pilots' Association, also wants smoking banned on short flights and believes duty-free goods like alcohol, which is inflammable, should be sold arrival, not on departure. For while airlines cannot prevent hijackers and sabotage, drunken rowdies are something Captain Taylor has had more than his fair share of.

He recalls: "I had a passenger who was running amok and annoying the other passengers and cabin crew. With my permission the radio officer knocked him out cold."

But Captain Taylor is against armed security guards on aircraft. "The last thing you want is a shoot-out at the OK Corral, though I accept that airlines for countries with major political unrest have little choice."

But before you cancel this year's holiday flight abroad and book a world cruise instead, Captain Taylor adds:

"Passengers can lessen their chances of being at risk if they know the secrets of air travel."

"Airlines that are making a loss or running into financial difficulties are likely to cut corners on aircraft maintenance and crew training, so I wouldn't use them."

"The thing to remember is that safety is expensive. I'm not pointing the finger at any specific airlines, but be wary of ones that really slash their fares."

Another handy tip is to travel first or business class. Captain Taylor says you have more chance or survival there in an emergency than in economy class.

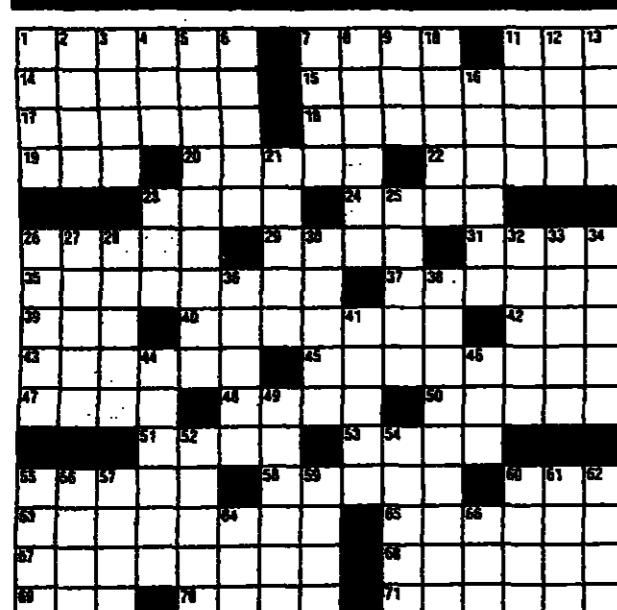
Captain Taylor and his wife Marjorie are going on a world trip next year. So, will it be any plane?

He smiles and says: "Of course. We're not nervous about flying — just choosy." Air Travel — How Safe Is It? by Laurie Taylor; Professional Books, £19.95



Veteran pilot Captain Laurie Taylor, author of a book that exposes the hidden dangers of air travel.

### TODAY'S CROSSWORD



### GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♦K8743 ♦985 ♦J3 ♦K104  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♦ Pass  
2 ♦ Pass ?  
What do you bid now?

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♦A95 ♦7 ♦AJ4 ♦AK9843  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♦ Pass  
What do you bid now?

Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♦AKQ1076 ♦AK5 ♦AQ ♦83  
The bidding has proceeded:  
West North East South  
1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass  
What do you bid now?

What do you bid now?

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♦K873 ♦Q8 ♦1962 ♦Q7  
Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♦Q92 ♦KQJ109 ♦A762 ♦6  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass  
What do you bid now?

Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♦K107 ♦KJ4 ♦AK9642 ♦Q6  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♦ Pass  
What do you bid now?

### THE WIZARD OF ID



By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart

B.C.



By Johnny Hart

### YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will feel better able to get on with things. An acquaintance of yours is turning into something of a nuisance. You should avoid all kinds of exaggeration. Be circumspect.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

The Moon's more favourable influence will help you to be more at peace with yourself. Something you have been learning will suddenly fall into place. You should make sure you keep your expenditure within limits. Be benevolent.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

Venus' more favourable influence will help you to be more at peace with yourself. Something you have been learning will suddenly fall into place. You should make sure you keep your expenditure within limits. Be benevolent.



Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

You should try not to become involved in something that is really of no concern to yours. You will have to make sure your enthusiasm is not misguided. Listen to what others are saying and take note. Be moderate.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Make sure you treat a cold or similar complaint carefully or it might turn into something much worse. The prospects are good only if you must work hard. You should try to be a little more patient. Be conscientious.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

Avoid making a nuisance of yourself. Something you have been hoping for will not now happen. You should not allow some secondary matter to preoccupy you. Be less insistent.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov. 21)

The Moon's better influence will help you to resolve a difference of opinion. You will feel more like your old self. Something you are doing will succeed beyond your expectations. Be forgiving.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb. 18)

You should not try to do too many things all at once. You are all too liable to delude yourself. You will have something to be really pleased about. Be tactful.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

Mars' influence will help you to preserve your independence. However you must beware of doing anything rash. Make sure you eat a healthy diet. Be punctual.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

Do not permit work to consume too much of your leisure time. You should not try to do more than you have time and energy for. However that does not mean just allowing things to happen. Be hospitable.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

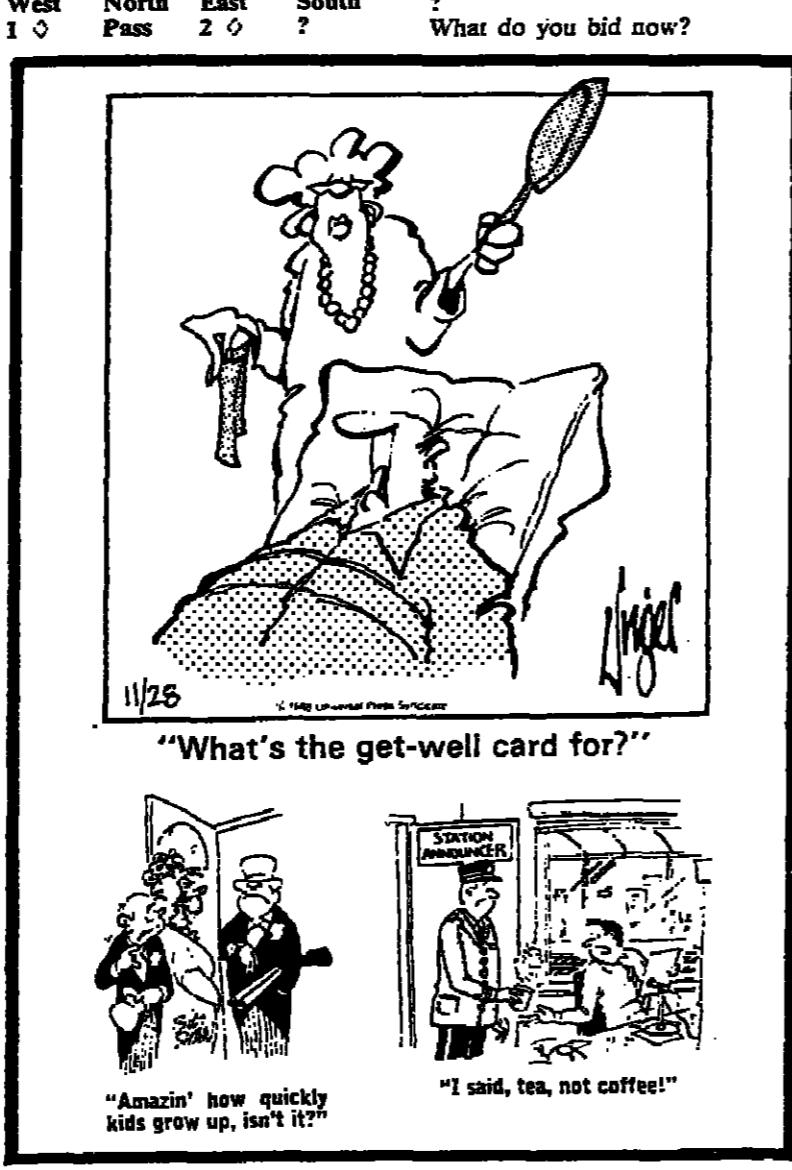
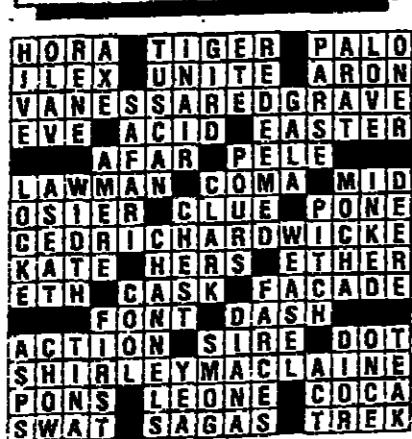
A good idea of yours will help you to deal with a persistent problem. You should make sure you do not forget a promise you have made. Do not drive faster than you are allowed to. Be less vain.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You should keep your wits rather more about you. A cold or other infection should not be neglected. You will feel more sure of yourself. Be considerate.

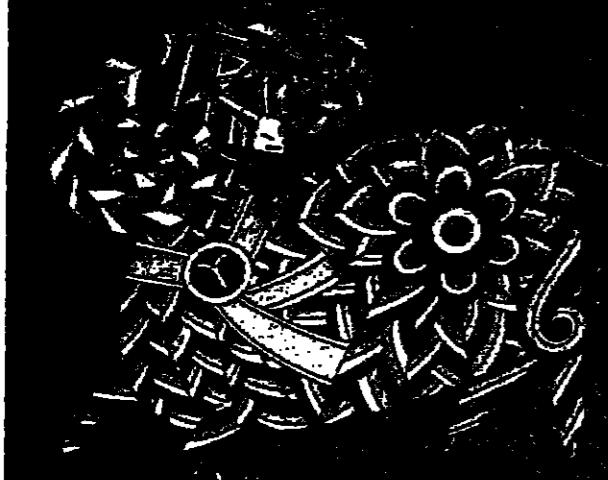
### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



# What is in store for you in 1989

## Aries

Mar 21 — April 20)



YOU have been rather disoriented in your career direction for quite a long time now, and let's face it, it has hurt you.

You have so much courage, and it would be a very rare Aries who gave up. So you kept on examining the prospects, looking at the ads, writing for interviews, meanwhile slogging along (which doesn't suit your "do-it-now-do-it-fast" temperament trying to make the best of what you've got).

Once this niche too seemed to promise more, and you can't quite analyse when it all tarnished and why. For many Aries as there is even the possibility that in some way you have been deceived or cheated in a career niche which was literally promoted as more your style than it actually is.

With Neptune the planetary principle of muddling and confusion still at the career end of your map, one can't believe in a genuine change here yet. But you can look forward to salary rise or improved income. And although with Saturn now joining Neptune you will have to continue working hard or even harder than you have been, at last you will be picked out, noticed, earmarked for promotion, even though still in an area that is not truly you.

This will indeed be a speedier year for you than last. Mars is your Ruler, an indicator of the type of roads you are travelling, and this year he literally whizzes along, making much better time than usual.

You will find yourself doing less sighing, gritting of teeth and pacing up and down in a habitat that somehow seems too small to contain your energy.

Okay, you will be less restless in 1989; but the far horizon will not look any more inviting, at least not just yet. You cannot yet see very far ahead, and you will continue to feel rather shut in and enclosed.

Saturn the constrictor is still sitting at the top of your zodiacal chart, sitting there almost like the lid on your box. There will be the occasional wild invitation to what seems like an escape, for Uranus the great bender of the rules is on hand also.

Throughout the year, you will feel you are the centre of their giant tussle — Uranus the liberator, Saturn closing in again.

You have plenty of light-hearted Jupiter/Venus phases this year, so perhaps the central tussle about your freedom and your career-horizons will begin to seem familiar and more easily handled.

### The hurt ahead

However, with you there is a slight tendency to remain very hurt when misunderstood — as all your natural instincts are of the open and outgoing variety. You despise "brooding" when hurt, however.

So you may just simply suffer without acknowledging the fact — even to yourself.

This, though, does not stop the suffering. In order to deal with it and come through to the other side of it, do admit that the hurt exists — you are unlikely to do so in the "whining" way that so makes you cringe.

Say plainly that your intentions were altogether different, and that somewhere along the line it's the wrong end of the stick that has been seized.

Your usual tactics are to overwork, take on all the overtime that can be fitted in, and to portray yourself to others as jolly, gregarious and whimsical on the outside. But how can the jollity reach through to the inside when all that hurt is still burning there?

I am making it sound a grim year, I know, but it will be far more genuinely cheerful if you partly reject the admirable but rather too-favourable Arien myths... ie: the stiff upper-lip and the blustering bonhomie.

They are good myths in their brave way, they have stood you in good stead in the past and in future years they will do so again.

### Cash matters

But this year and next, Saturn and Capricorn are in the driver's seat with all the dourness of command and insistence on strict truth, even if it is gloomy truth, that this entails.

Until mid-March, Jupiter the luck-bringer is in your financial sector. Attend then to your cash concerns. They will need very little attention, of the nuts-and-bolts type that is. You may however be able now to invest or expand money-wise, and this on the whole very much the time to do so with success.

From March till the end of July, luck lies for you in neighbourhood concerns, in schools and schooling, and in vehicles and transport in general! With Jupiter here for you, now is the time to become a school governor, to complete a thesis or publish short stories or essays, or to work in a garage!

You will enjoy many, many happy surprises in your immediate environment in these months. The streets around your home turn out to be full of fascinating characters, usually routine journeys open up vistas, and you probably acquire an exciting vehicle.

From August 1st and on throughout the remainder of 1989, Jupiter is in your home arena. For anyone this is good news, of course. For you, particularly so.

### Pain barrier

You have waded through a good deal of recent pain and strain in your home life or family life... and Jupiter here now for so long will do a lot to help expunge this state of affairs. There will be far more mutual understanding and gaiety here, without anyone having to make much effort at all.

Old scores and grudges will just fade away, perhaps helped on by a timely word when you are already feeling fine. With Jupiter, thank heavens, there is no need to grimly manufacture reconciliations and apologies. Everyone eventually becomes relaxed and in the end just sort of lets go.

On a business level, obviously, this is not quite such a desirable effect.

So if you decide to choose now to have work done in your home, however good you feel about your builder or employees, make sure that they don't just "relax and let go" while they're supposed to be completing your work.

Just as on genuine contracts and schedules, don't be lax handing out the money, don't hand out too much in advance. This is true of the housekeeping money too.

And don't be tempted to give teenagers more pocket money than is necessary — even at a happy time like this: Jupiter may lead to excesses you'd later be shocked by.

In general though, you'll agree this is a splendid bonus in your year — and you'll be delighted to know it continues through well into 1990 as well.

## Taurus

(April 21 — May 21)



THE heavy mob — Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune lined up in Capricorn, frightening almost everyone in sight, hold few territories for somebody like you.

Because Neptune the great mystic already there for some years (now newly joined by Saturn and Uranus) in your area of ideals and aspirations, you have now formed quite an extensive philosophy.

Saturn will now firm up the details of this, enabling you to make due use of it here and now in the material world. It is said in astrology that we must always be careful of what we want, because when Saturn touches Neptune we'll get it.

It is more than likely that you will be making major forays now to far-flung places, or that visitors from unfamiliar cultures will be very much in evidence on your guest-list.

### Ever-changing you

There remains the problematic Pluto in your area of partnerships. What a challenge. For the next five years you are being slowly but surely transformed — so that your closest friends are beginning to mutter, saying that they hardly recognise you for the same individual. This won't suit some of them that's for sure. They are likely to be the ones who were prone to take advantage of you, or to fail to see your viewpoint unless it was waved at them on a banner.

It is not that you are becoming more aggressive. Pluto is far too subtle for that, and your own ruler Venus far too amiable.

It is not that you are becoming sneaky either. Or you are an un-typical Taurian, if so. You belong in the Venus family, and on the rare occasions Venus is at all underhanded, it is only to promote general good times and the welfare of all.

It is simply that you are not soft at the edges anymore, you are a harder, leaner, hungrier version! (That is spiritually speaking, you are. In the flesh, in the mirror, with Jupiter the great expander in your own sign currently, you may well be seeing a rounder Taurus).

You have already recently taken on some formidable adversaries, and probably bested them with a casual judo twist. You won't stand for shoddiness, or shoddy motives, in your present mood.

Your attitude to your nearest and best beloved has changed also. They treat you with more care and respect now, don't they? I'd even go so far as to bet even your favourite love-story authors have changed.

### Fun, frivolity and fans

Hand in hand with this "new you," Jupiter in Taurus is

bringing you fun, frivolity, fans. Next stop, finance — that's from mid-March on, when Jupiter moves into your money sector.

Through from then till the end of July, that's the time for you to make money from your communication skills. Lecture, teach. Do a degree which will bring improved income. Type. Become a secretary to a millionaire.

Jupiter in August, then moves on into Cancer, an especially warm and reassuring sign for you. Jupiter stays here for the rest of the year and well beyond. Your friendships and family concerns blossom then, and this is particularly true of your relationship with sisters or brothers, or indeed with any students you may have on a formal or informal basis.

And if you are a student yourself, fellow-pupils are good news for you. Also you'll find a magnificent rapport with at least one teacher, lecture, guide or mentor.

Because Cancer is such a home-and-hearth oriented sign, and because you yourself have such a joy in security and stability as well as in the occasional adventure, this long stay of Jupiter the luck bringer in Cancer will turn you almost into a sort of honorary Cancerian. So that like Cancerians with Jupiter in their sign onwards from August, or like Aries with Jupiter in their area of home and family, you will be much blessed in terms of home life.

That rocking chair by the hearth, is now a magnet for many wonderful gifts from Jupiter. You in turn will be feeling generous — there'll be plenty to give — but remember not to take risks by signing money or goods away without safeguards. Don't take on credit agreements in too great abundance, and don't go for an over-ambitious second mortgage!

Also, with Neptune the mystifier still at the peak of your zodiacal chart, don't let your teenagers or your employees (especially people working in your home — for your home — for you) get their hands on too much cash at once before it's actually been earned, and don't trust strangers in your home if they give you even the slightest sense of unease.

Jupiter-promoted generosity can turn out to be over the top, over-confident, almost in a sense arrogant. If others try to warn you about anything, don't just turn a deaf ear in 1989.

This year is pretty much a high for you. But objective onlookers may be able to see where you can store up good things for yourself — or sow the seeds of future worry you really don't need.

With all this home-front home-fires benefit you get the bonus of the school/college/education bias also.

So many types of opportunities, then, to stumble across the nicest kinds of luck or even to find it simply arriving without your having to stir far afield at all.

It must be added that the home front, though, cannot — and will not — be unmilitated sweetness and light throughout the year ahead.

### The entertainers

Jupiter will undoubtedly bring benefits, treats and an amicable atmosphere to the home, and there may be more entertaining in your home of the least stressful kind, and many invitations to other's homes where you and yours will be made one of the family.

Still, your home area continues also to be challenged by the ubiquitous Pluto.

And just as Plutonian energy has been at work transforming you and your image, and the way other people around see you, so also the same Plutonian transformation cannot help but be at work on your homelife.

This, too, may have been noted by you and others in your intimate circle. It may well be that fools are not suffered now gladly in your home, if ever they were: you might feel there is less tolerance or overall hospitality there. This could have obscurely troubled you, even while perhaps at the same time you endorsed it.

There may even have been an old family secret brought to light — this is the kind of thing Pluto does, and it must be said that amid the stress such explosions bring, there is when the dust settles a sense of renewed truth and naked honesty. Pluto is a sort of mega-full Moon in that way. Let's not think about Pluto now, as we set out on the pathways and by-ways of 1989. Let's think about Jupiter!

### Financial times

From August 1, Jupiter concentrates on your financial sector — bringing you improved cashflow, plenty of economic aid — and again, temptation after temptation.

This time it appears in the form of the wily, people attracted by your bankable ideas and, let's face it, by your healthy improved bank balance.

"Come on in such and such a scheme," they'll suggest, "Oh and bring a little of your cash with you..."

"We'll pay big for those ideas of yours. But not just yet..."

Find the time to consult with a Taurus, a Capricorn or a Virgo who is on your side. They're unlikely to advise you to let your ideas or assets go, whatever the promises. But then when all is said and done, remember also the bottom line: that this year you're on your own. Do you want to find yourself on your own with these new partners?

However, your sheer enthusiasm is not without its own built-in antenna.

If it's a project you simply can't resist, or if it involves a companionship of a high calibre, then go for it. No Gemini needs an astrologer to tell them that.

Your quick, clever, inventive Ruler Mercury is strong this June and then again in October. This provides you with that little bit extra, that degree of acumen and the ability to catch a signal almost before it has been sent.

The pace will be fast for you during those months in particular. But nevertheless, if you possibly can find the time, take a breather and just really lay all your cards out on the table — but keep them to yourself!

• Muli over the pros and cons of whatever scheme is afoot. Make your choices, go for your options. You have a trigger-fine ability to make a snap decision, it's true; but don't allow yourself to be hurried along if you don't want to be. Those are the months when above all you can call on your sense of intuition, your talents are too far-ranging for that.

### Your favourite things

Blessed for you Geminis in 1989 are some of your 'favourite things' — learning, teaching, languages; short stories, magazines, editing, publishing, word processing; partying, inventing, discovering; bicycling, sports, getting around and about, playing frisbee with the neighbourhood kids, rollerskating, a dinky new car.

Also look out for the bargains, shopping, gossip, publicity. Chance encounters. Entertaining, being entertained.

About romance itself, it's hard to tell you with any certainty. Lightning may strike once or twice, but not on a major scale.

You won't be short of companions in 1989. They will start to see plenty in you to intrigue and admire, more than recently, in fact, when you were in the midst of the Saturn doldrums. You will be pleased with the company you keep — and there'll be plenty of it, too. There need be no sense of solitude.

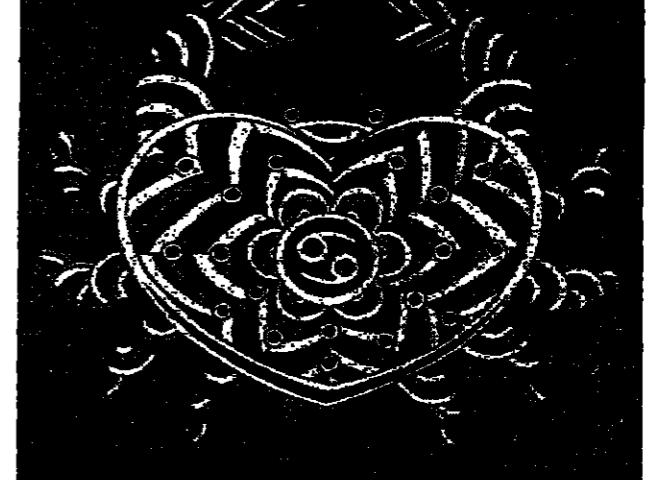
But it doesn't honestly look like a big Gemini romance in store this year — this is the year with more of an emphasis on you than on partnerships as such.

If you do however decide to take the plunge this year, and that could be into flat-sharing with someone nice as there is such emphasis later on home concerns for everyone, whatever sign they are, with Jupiter in Cancer from August 1 on — then that too does indeed appear to be a charming arrangement; rather cosy, yet carefree, and with money coming in to ease the housekeeping even though it goes out again almost as fast.

Happy 1989, Gemini.

## Cancer

(Jun 22 — Jul 23)



CANCERIANS begin 1989 with Jupiter the luck bringer in the zodiacal area of friendships and society. Here lies the world of politics, for instance. If you have any such ambitions, January through to mid-March is indeed a time of golden opportunities.

Similarly, it is a team time.

Any involvements you have with clubs, regular meetings and gatherings of like-minded folk with any particular aim in view besides the pleasure of each other's company; sports if these involve a team rather than going it as loner; these are the sorts of activities you can expect to expand for you.

Then, from mid-March right through to the end of July, the luck bringer is positioned in Gemini, and apart from the undoubted fact that there will be more emphasis in society in general on words, verbiage and ephemera it is rather difficult to pinpoint what will come of it for Cancerians in particular.

This is because the zodiacal area 'ben lucky (March-July) for Cancerians is the whole shebang of what is going on in the wings, behind the scenes, and as yet undiscovered to said Cancerian.

It is the phase when all sorts of things are planned for us by others but they haven't quite got around to notifying us yet.

In other words, it is our darkside of the moon; and when a benefic planet such as Venus or (as now March-July 1989) Jupiter is occupying that part of our map, then good things are gently simmering up for us without our knowledge.

March, April, May, June and July in '88, was another such consolidating phase for Cancerians, without Cancerians themselves being entirely in the picture about it all.

### Look ahead

Looking back on that time now, can you as yet detect which seeds were sowing, which shoots of success were beginning to spring up — of which you were quite ignorant then?

Let's leave Luck gently burgeoning away there for the time being. Let's take a look at where the heavy mob — Saturn, Uranus, Neptune — are placed for Cancerians in 1989.

Neptune for a long time now has been fudging the issue for you positioned as it is in your area of partnerships.

Neptune here has made it almost impossible for you to get to grips with a simple, basic transaction. You have also been literally misunderstood by partners, a spouse or in business matters. You have tried to speak as clearly and simply as humanly possible. You have put facts in writing and kept photocopies.

You have however mislaid files even when kept, as you thought, meticulously. And as far as others were concerned, you might as well have been speaking an exotic foreign language. Persistently they only heard what you wanted to hear, not what you actually said.</p

# What is in store for you in 1989

## Leo

(Jul 24 — Aug 23)



DESPITE some happy phases when Venus helped out, your last couple of years have been rather gloomy in one of your pet areas — that of fun and partying! In other words, you just haven't had enough of this sort of thing, and even the partying you have had seemed rather grim and graceless in the main, with more in it for fellow partygoers than for you.

You just kept hanging on there, hoping it would all turn out to be once more as you remembered fun should be.

What was wrong, of course, was Saturn in your zodiacal area of romance and merriment — Saturn is not renowned merrymaker, and with him there no wonder the party hats didn't do much for anyone's joie de vivre.

Happy times are here again: Saturn has moved up and on, into an area of your zodiacal map which suits this planetary taskmaster better.

This is your area of work and routine. Okay, well may you groan. With him there you are going to work hard — at something. At your own health, if you baulk at other serious employment.

Leos who have already been hardworking will be driven less relentlessly. I know, it sounds quite anthropomorphic of astrologers to think Saturn notices how hard we've tried or not. (Anthropomorphic is what Walt Disney did to birds and furry beasts, and what astrologers are accused of doing to vast planets — personalising them.)

What it may be, according to Jung, is that Saturn symbolises or coincides with our own inner drives to get things done, to form and shape our schedules, to discipline ourselves.

That inner part of us is quite relentless. We cannot finally pull any wool over its eyes, because they are our own eyes, and we know how hard we've been trying.

Anyway, it's better surely to have Saturn discipline in our work area than in our fun area.

### All work and all play

Now Leo can work hard and play hard. That's a major trend of your 1989.

Don't wait for the Saturnian energies to catch up on you, rope and brand you by main force. Co-operate just a little, bend with the prevailing breeze — sketch out an itinerary on the work front, keep files and a diary if you are one of the many Leos who hate to bother with the minutiae of life.

There will be plenty of surprises to keep Saturn from imposing dullness on your work regimen throughout this year.

Uranus is there, too, and this means job offers received only to be cancelled or postponed. Or you love a job, until one lunch-break you find you've just walked out never to return: something better came up, or you were sacked but no one knows why, or you were suddenly tested just too far. Uranus often acts without due warning. There may be company closures, to the astonishment of a work force who had no idea a take-over was in the wind. Because Neptune is also here to complete the triple whammy, there may be bankruptcy or lost documents or misunderstandings, delays, strikes.

### Career into '89

If you have especial vocational or career ambitions or ideals, do take advantage of Jupiter the luck-bringer in your career area (this is different from your routine work sector) — the dates are January through to mid-March.

If there is a sort of work you've always wanted to do but have been put off going for, for instance, do please explore the possibilities thoroughly in January, February, March.

The whole set-up may have changed since you were last investigating it. Your skills or fresh experience may now be needed there. The world turns, times change, new executives with new priorities replace those who originally turned down your application. Jupiter at the top of your zodiacal map, where your vocation and your ambition are located, is too good to miss. At least write a few letters, make a call or two, find out the names of executives in your chosen field. Jupiter imbues with an aura of easygoing confidence, and makes us subtly more attractive than usual. In your case in 1989 this Jupiterian attraction applies to you in your career idealism. Make use of it, that's what it's there for.

Mid-March through to late July, Jupiter moves on into your sector of friendships, any clubs or societies you belong to or teams you are on. Your friendships at this time will be more amusing and entertaining than usual. Many more people will be moving in and out of your life in a gabble of gossip, wit and maybe publicity (this sector of your chart is Gemini, which is to do with words, media and occasionally headlines).

August through to the end of 1989 and beyond, Jupiter the luck-bringer is poised in your area of behind the scenes activity, so whatever is being planned for your future by others, you may not yet be told: however, it involves expanded interests.

For you, this is a negative and receptive area and rather unconscious. If you have vivid and unsettling dreams at this time, just take note of them, keep a dream diary by your bed perhaps to scribble dreams into as you wake.

You may even opt for solitude, in spite of the invitations and friendships also on offer: you may choose to withdraw for a time, to examine yourself and discover what makes you tick now as we near the 1990s.

### Lions beware

One warning. Pluto remains in your area of the home-base. Don't tolerate gate-crashers, be cautious with strangers, keep track of your keys, a chain on your door before you open it.

These are sensible measures for anyone, man or woman, so I am not being alarmist. At this time, Pluto's symbolism is the stranger in the alley, the intruder at the door. But if you avoid the alley and monitor the door, that symbolism doesn't get a look in. Pluto can also be someone in your home or family trying to control you, or you trying to control them (these things can work in subtle ways, not always entirely apparent.)

At times we invite others to enter our lives and duel with us. They may remind us of a parent or sibling we feel we failed with: we 'need' to feel we can slug it out again so it will get to feel like it's all a bit more fair. If this is what some Leos are doing in a home situation now, or if someone is in your home and doing much the same to you, then it is best to know the situation for what it is.

And where Pluto is concerned, play fair. Pluto doesn't like cheating. With Pluto, be as passionate as you like but not petty.

All this eases off, anyway, when Venus waters Pluto down: March, kinder times: August, most of October, and November too.

## Virgo

(Aug 24 — Sep 23)



A STRANGE new feeling will be creeping agreeably up on you all year, and soon you will dare to put a name to it: a sense of security in your home base.

For longer than you care to remember, there has been no true sense of belonging where you were placed.

A parent or parental figure may even have been missing for you at an age when you still felt you needed them.

When we are older, we expect to get along without much in the way of parenting, but Neptune has made an untimely loss of it for all too many younger Virgos.

Then there were all sorts of stringent economies necessary at home for you, and probably sudden moves as well in the last couple of years.

As soon as you settled down somewhere, you had the uneasy expectation of possibly having to up sticks again.

Now Saturn, Uranus and Neptune have pulled out of your zodiacal arena of home and roots.

With that lot out of the way, you have a chance to feel like a real Virgo again at last — whatever that feels like!

In fact, it's been so long since you were able to relax at home without Neptune lurking around misting up the windows and making fog of the mortgage repayments, you're pretty well forgotten how it does indeed feel to be a happy Virgo happily at home.

Meanwhile, before you relax too much, the horror trio has moved on into another party of your personal map — where to?

A less crucial angle, thank heavens. Still, they haven't disappeared entirely.

They will see to it that your romantic life is strange, challenging and demanding this year. Your usual attitude on the subject of romance is that it should be both sensuous and sensible. You don't like chilly lovers, hard-to-get games, or endless flirting. On the other hand, neither do you like graceless inelegance!

### Strange love

You will find in 1989, however, that love takes an unfamiliar guise.

Someone, perhaps, who just is not your usual 'type' may appear to be suddenly irresistible. Neptune can bring into one's life the most idealistic — and yet unrealistic — sort of love.

Under Neptune, we can feel we are tremendously necessary to someone who is busy ruining their life quite efficiently on their own: perhaps they are taking drugs or too much booze, and Neptune leads us to believe we can become the Rescuer.

This is fine, so long as everyone concerned enjoys what is going on — for the feeling of submission to a higher, purer fate

## Libra

(Sep 24 — Oct 23)



YOU have been experiencing a certain learning phase through 1988, admittedly along with a certain amount of correspondent frustration — according to how difficult the learning process has proved to be for you.

It is more than likely that you have actually tackled a completely new subject and studied it quite seriously over the last year, perhaps going back to college or choosing to enter the Open University. And all through 1988, it was probably obscure to those around you (and indeed to you) why exactly you were driven to put yourself through this apparently needless struggle in addition to the ubiquitous chores of everyday life. What were you hoping to gain from it in real terms? Where was the profit when it all looked very much like loss — of time and mental resources at least. Well, now in 1989 we see the other side of the coin — Jupiter the Major Benefic (as the ancients called this planet) demonstrates it clearly to us.

For it was the presence of Saturn the Task-master in your zodiacal area of learning that pushed and pressed you to find your way in a new subject, to fit a new string to your bow. And this year Jupiter can make happy use of that very fresh skill for you.

At first, in the spring and the summer of 1989, your talent simply brings you fulfilment and satisfaction (in January, February or March, too, you may be welcomed into a business partnership designed around exercising this particular talent or something very like it).

Then, from the last day of July onwards, with Jupiter moved up to the zodiacal area where your career and ambitions are located, it would appear that you find yourself in an extremely good position to make money from your newly-acquired expertise.

### Beware the home front

Meanwhile, another new event this year: your home front becomes more important and demands your attention.

You may have to identify a problem in the structure or maintenance of your home — the roof, the plumbing, alas, there is something wrong in the happy home and even identifying it proves to be quite a task. It may well appear to be one problem when all along it is really something else. Confusion reigns for Neptune the mystifier is here.

Another possibility for less than domestic bliss is an unwelcome guest under your roof — perhaps someone who just won't go, although they say the reason for staying is that they can't

than we have ever known is quite magnificent under Neptunian influences.

But don't begin to be drawn down into whatever vortex lies below the dreamy, rainbow-coloured, Neptunian surfaces.

Don't sleep-walk, as it were, down paths you would never have travelled alone — only to find that getting out again is a whole lot more difficult than drifting in.

The presence of Saturn alongside will make you take it all that much more seriously, and add to your sense of duty and involvement.

Saturn being such a genuinely work-oriented influence may also enable you to effect some true changes on your beloved's behalf (and they will do the same for you) but still, don't get in too deep.

### Save the children

This would-be-selfless experience may, on the other hand, be to do with a child who really is in need, but who must be enabled to begin standing on their own feet.

Under a series of planetary influences like these, you may be a marvellous social worker with young people.

In fact you will have a particular pattern of empathy with children and young people throughout the whole of 1989.

Until mid-March, Jupiter the luck-bringer brings you freedom — to travel, to explore further reaches of thought and philosophy.

This is traditionally the time to publish your thoughts, too so look out that these of yours, or the letters to the newspaper about local issues, or whatever it is that has been lying dormant waiting for discovery.

Now is the time when your thoughts should be able to reach a wide audience.

From March right through to the end of July, Jupiter puts a glowing spotlight on your career and ambitions.

Again, if you have ever had publishing aspirations, now could well be your moment to involve yourself in some way in that world.

Virgo is a very verbal sign, and these particular skills of yours, your word skills, are now very much to the fore.

Perhaps this is your time to acquire a word processor, if you don't have one. Or to brush up on secretarial skills? Invent a board game and then market it, get paid for some research work, produce a play.

As Jupiter moves from August 1st into your area of friendships, community concerns and group activities, this theme continues.

### Be an activist

Starred now are such concerns as working for the common good in a team, perhaps, or on a telephone switchboard!

Getting yourself into politics. Or into a religious community. You get the picture?

Your fellow man/woman, an involvement in the very society you live within, these are your themes for late summer and right through to Christmas 1989.

With a profound emphasis on Earth for you this year, you as an Earth sign yourself will find much more sense and less nonsense in the way things turn out.

Even Uranus, the planetary principle of sudden surprises and twists and turns, is now in an Earth sign. This makes a change from painfully challenging you in hard-to-get-to-grips-with Fire, as in recent years.

This new stability means in real terms that when arrangements begin or terminate this year, whether you like the situation or hate it, at least you can understand others' reasons for making it be that way.

You won't be shaking your head in stunned bewilderment any more, muttering "I just don't know how they make that one out..."

In consequence, your nervous system and health can benefit.

Rashes and insomnia, those Virgoan bugbears, will be much more of a thing of the past.

Your surrounding landscape is now going to be much more the way you would have painted it yourself, if you had been allowed to!

### Cash in on good sense

With Jupiter in friendly Taurus and Gemini throughout spring and summer, and then moving up to the top of your chart to spotlight your career, it is unlikely you will suffer any serious cash shortage. Still, with Saturn and Neptune in your homebase, you're going to be glad of your improved financial ability to roll with the punches.

You are less dependent these days on material security or comfort. You have had Pluto the transformer in your zodiacal area of cash and resources since 1984 now. At first there seemed to be almost a breakdown of security for you in quite severe ways, maybe even as dire threat as bankruptcy. Events have subsequently shown that you are not doomed to live out of a suitcase, and looking on the positive side of things, you have discovered your own flexibility and your ability to live thrifitly when you must.

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For, in some way, your home will be milking your resources; you will have to spend more than you expected and bargained for this year. So bear that in mind when the time comes to plan the budget.

With Neptune here particularly, do try to make sure you have got as much cut and dried as you possibly can in the way of a written contract, if you have work done in your home. Or follow the rules of good common sense and do keep documentation properly on file if you need to show records at any time or gain planning permission.

If buying or selling property now, keep track of each step for your own peace of mind. There is just the possibility that someone somewhere along the line may talk about arbitration, and if it is known that you have all the correct evidence readily to hand, others may back off and leave you alone in peace without pushing matters further.

Venus, your personal ruler and protector, seems to be in the right place at the right time for you for most of the year anyway, beginning as early as January right there in your home base so that most of the sting is drawn from Neptune and Saturn also residing there.

### A fine romance

Venus ensures activity on the romance front throughout your February, and whatever is begun for you then is very happily reinforced in May when Venus, Jupiter and the great Sun itself are all beaming on you.

June continues this happy theme, and July especially sees good things in store for Librans, almost certainly romantically strong, since the Sun then is joined in Leo by both of the passion planets, Mars and Venus.

Then from August 18th, Venus is in your own sign. It is always an important time in love for you when your ruling planet is in Libra. Throughout September, the presence of Mercury (the planet which governs communication) also in Libra indicates there will be much significant discussion and dialogue on either a romantic or creative topic.

In October, you are lucky yet again. The planets are on your side with the Sun and Mercury continuing in Libra, and powerful Mars also in Libra, all through the month — receiving added sparkle from protective Venus now in Sagittarius, another favourable placement.

With such a glowing track record in 1989 it is hardly surprising that Venus returns to your home base in November, well before you might ordinarily have expected to have been accorded this honour. Here again she will act to nullify much of the bleak action of Saturn and Neptune there. Someone up there is surely looking after you.

Then arrives December — and all again is healthy romantically, especially from the 18th onwards, when Mars jumps into fiery Sagittarius and brings benefits to Venus, returning to your zodiacal area of romance and repeating February's passionate conditions.

## Scorpio

# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Despite food problem Viet economy shows positive signs

BANGKOK, Thailand, Jan 1. (AP): Official Radio Hanoi said yesterday that private sector growth and new foreign investment were positive signs for the Vietnamese economy in 1988, and food production remained its top problem.

"The food problem is still the most difficult problem in Vietnam. Despite the increase in food output every year ... the food demand of the whole society has not been met," said the broadcast monitored in Bangkok.

But it said that foreign investment to date, while not large, has been expanding along with external economic relations.

Businessmen from Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand and France are known to have been making cautious probes, and some have already signed contracts.

**Production**  
Meanwhile, the target for food production in 1989 has been set by the government at 20 million metric tons, an increase of 5 per cent over the past year, Radio Hanoi reported.

Food shortages affected tens of thousands of families in northern Vietnam in early 1988 in the wake of typhoons, flooding and other natural calamities.

Senior government officials were criticised for the food shortages, reflecting what the broadcast said was "the new change in the political atmosphere in Vietnam."

In the past two years Communist Party leader Nguyen Van Linh has attempted to inject capitalist-style incentives into Vietnam's tottering economy and purge the government and party of ineffective officials. There also have been attempts at decentralising economic decision making.

The broadcast cited a range of private economic initiatives which reaped profits in 1988, including coffee growing in the central highlands, shrimp farms along the coast and investment by families in fishing. Output in the countryside reportedly increased in many areas because of the government's policy of encouraging private enterprise.

## China produces 59.2 million tons of steel

BEIJING, Jan 1. (AP): China produced 59.2 million tons of steel in 1988, about 3 million tons more than in the previous year, according to the Ministry of Metallurgical Industry.

The ministry said pre-tax profits surged 10 per cent in 1988 to 10 billion yuan (\$2.7 billion), the official China Daily reported yesterday.

The newspaper said the steel industry faces a grim situation in 1989 due to poor transport conditions and shortages of raw materials and energy. The present stocks of raw materials and fuel are at their lowest level since 1988, the ministry said.

The steel industry, like other raw materials industries in China, has also been hit by profiteering and rapid inflation because of the inability of producers to meet rising demand.

### Controls

In November, the government re-exerted controls over the industry. It banned trading in steel products by unauthorised dealers, required that producers fulfil mandatory plans assigned by the state, rationed certain types of rolled steel and tightened controls over rolled steel prices.

The ministry said the quality of China's steel is improving, with the amount of rolled steel which meets advanced international standards expected to rise from last year's eight million tons.

## Basrah refinery to be operational in June

BAGHDAD, Jan 1. (OPECNA): An oil refinery in the southern Iraqi city of Basrah, whose completion was delayed by the war, is expected to be operational in June 1989.

Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul Raheem Al Chalabi, who made the announcement at the weekend, said two units producing petroleum products with a capacity of 70,000 B/D each would be commissioned in January.

### Construction

The minister explained that an Italian firm, which had built the refinery in September 1980, started complementary construction work earlier this month, adding that Iraqi firms had already completed reconstruction of the building damaged during the Gulf conflict.

## Implementation of recent agreement will bring relative stability to prices

# OPEC set to slash oil production

ABU DHABI, Jan 1. (Reuters): OPEC states looked set to apply the brakes to oil production on New Year's Day under a pact aimed at shoring up prices by cutting their output by nearly 20 per cent.

But Gulf-based industry sources said prices, which averaged about \$12 per barrel for Middle East crude in 1988, would probably stay below \$15 this year due to high stocks in consumer countries.

**Agreement**  
"Even if OPEC abides by its new agreement, (spot market) prices will remain soft," said an oil trader in London last week.

He said the amount of oil loaded onto tankers in December would affect market prices in January and February.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) agreed in November to limit total output to 18.5 million barrels per day (BPD) for the first six months of 1989 and gave each of the 13 members an individual quota.

The pact, starting today, aimed to slash production by about four million BPD from December levels. It replaced a 1986 pact which was renewed three times and widely flouted, sending oil

prices tumbling.

"In 1988, first official prices went out of the window, then quotes," a senior Gulf oil executive said. "It was the right time for OPEC to agree on something."

Members of OPEC, which has a benchmark price of \$18 per barrel, have not released official figures on current output or on the size of cutbacks planned for January.

But industry sources said substantial cutbacks from big Gulf producers and other states would be needed to comply with the accord.

Leaders of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Qatar, which together account for most of OPEC's surplus output, pledged last month to abide by the pact and industry sources said their commitment to it was crucial for the future of world prices.

Saudi Arabia, OPEC's biggest producer, told customers in Japan in December that contract levels for January shipments would fall by 40 per cent but cuts for customers in the West might be steeper, oil industry sources said.

They said the UAE might exceed its new quota of 988,000 BPD since the second-biggest producer in the federation, the emirate of Dubai, was likely to maintain output at 400,000 BPD.

Abu Dhabi, the UAE's biggest producer, would probably cut production by about 700,000 BPD to one million BPD, the sources said. "UAE output will be around 1.3-1.4 million," one source predicted.

UAE Central Bank Governor

Malek Al Hamar has said the UAE's 1988 gross national product probably fell by five or six per cent from 1987 due to lower oil prices.

**Stability**  
Implementation of the recent OPEC agreement will bring relative stability to oil prices and hence the UAE revenues (in 1989) will be similar to those of 1988," he was quoted as saying by the official WAM news agency. He gave no details of oil revenues.

Saudi Arabia's oil revenues have dropped from a peak of \$101 billion in 1981 to an estimated \$16 billion in 1988, economists said. They did not expect revenues to be higher in 1989.

Oil prices fluctuated throughout 1988, but stayed well below

the \$18 target.

Middle East benchmark crude Dubai began the year at \$14.90 and ended it at \$13.40, recovering from a low of just below \$10 in late November. Its official price is \$17.42.

Meanwhile, in New York, US oil prices ended the year on a high note, making a strong advance on Friday as traders scrambled to cover positions before the long holiday weekend.

The benchmark US crude, West Texas Intermediate for February delivery, broke through the key \$17 a barrel level in late trading and ended the session at \$17.34, 47 cents higher than Thursday's close.

Peter Beutel, an analyst with

Elders Futures Inc, said a late buying spurt swept prices up through key chart levels.

"Traders holding short positions panicked and had to pay up to cover the positions," he said.

**Positions**

Dean Witter Reynolds analyst Stephen Platt said traders were covering positions ahead of the new production agreement of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) that takes effect today.

The accord sets a production ceiling of 18.5 million barrels a

day for the first half of 1989 compared with estimated output of about 22.5 million barrels a day in December. Oil prices, which were in a slump for much of the year, made a strong recovery after OPEC clinched its output deal in late November.

Of the 34,000 crude oil futures contracts traded Friday, about 17,000 were traded between noon and the close, according to the exchange.

**Boosted**

January gasoline futures rose 0.87 cent to 47.88 cents a gallon, boosted by news of refinery problems at two Ashland Inc. plants as well as a decline in US inventories last week, analysts said.

In European trading, oil prices also closed higher. North Sea Brent Blend, the most widely-traded crude, ended Friday at 16.20, a gain of 15 cents from Thursday and a full \$5 above the year's low, posted in October.

Traders said the latest Brent

gains were prompted by fears of a shortage of the grade in the second half of January. Supply is tight because British output has been cut by 10 to 12 per cent after an accident involving a storage tanker in the North Sea last weekend.

## QASCO to come under national management

DOHA, Jan 1. (OPECNA): The management of the Qatar Steel Company (QASCO) is to be formally taken over by Qatari nationals from Kobe Steel of Japan in the New Year.

This major move comes more than 15 years after Qatar decided to diversify its oil-based economy by embarking on a range of non-oil industrial enterprises.

### Growth

He cited the growth of the service sector over the production sector, increasing budget deficits, overspending of foreign currency, and growing unemployment, officially estimated now at about 8 per cent.

He said the government would encourage investment in the private sector, stress agriculture and concentrate on self-sufficiency.

In October, the government put the dinar into a managed float which left its value close to \$2, down from \$3 last year.

Last month, it banned new imports of cars, refrigerators, chandeliers and other luxury goods for one year and imposed stiff import duties on many products.

### Operations

QASCO, which started operations in 1978 with 70 per cent of its shares held by the Qatari government, 20 per cent by Kobe and 10 per cent by Tokyo Boeki of Japan, has emerged as one of the world's most efficiently-run steel plants.

QASCO has been producing 150 per cent above its designed capacity of 330,000 tonnes a year of reinforced steel bars. In 1987, production reached 500,000 tonnes and is expected to increase to 503,000 tonnes this year.

## World Business Summary

### Iranian budget aims to repair war damage

NICOSIA, Jan 1. (Reuters): Iran, detailing its first budget since the ceasefire in the war with Iraq, said today it planned to resume natural gas exports next year. Prime Minister Mir Hossein Mousavi told parliament his budget bill also covered repairs to war-damaged oil facilities and power plants, Tehran Radio reported.

The budget for the Iranian year beginning on March 21 put total government spending at 3,856 billion rials (\$55 billion), four per cent less than the current year's projected figure, said the oil ministry in Nicosia. Mousavi did not give a figure for the budget deficit, which grew consistently during the eight-year war to a projected 1,000 billion rials (\$15 billion) in the current year.

The ceasefire took effect in August. He said foreign exchange earnings next year would be boosted by natural gas and fuel oil exports. Iran has the world's second largest gas reserves after the Soviet Union. Tehran and Moscow agreed last month to resume Iranian gas supplies through pipeline to the Soviet Union, cut off in 1980 over a pricing dispute. Details of price and volume were not given. Oil Minister Gholamreza Aghazadeh said last month that gas for the Soviet Union would come from the Kangan Refinery in the south which was not likely to come on stream for another year. Mousavi said credits earmarked for agriculture and water projects in the bill were 10.5 per cent higher than in the current year. He said 86,500 additional hectares (214,000 acres) of land would be irrigated next year.

Education, health and social security accounted for 37 per cent of the budget, he said. He did not give a figure for military expenditure, but said government spending excluding war-related expenses would grow by 3.2 per cent. The war had absorbed about a third of government revenues, according to independent estimates. Mousavi said \$11.5 billion would be spent on development projects as Iran needed research and investment in advanced industries to build a self-sufficient economy. Priority in the energy sector would go to repairing damaged power plants and building new ones. Oil installations would be repaired, including a refinery at Abadan with a capacity of 130,000 barrels per day, and new oil export terminals would be built.

### Soviet Union continues purchases of US grain

WASHINGTON, Jan 1. (AP): The Soviet Union continues to buy US grain under a recently extended long-term agreement between the two countries, including a new deal for 420,000 metric tons of wheat at subsidised prices, the Agriculture Department said last week. Christopher E. Goldthwait, acting general sales manager for the department's foreign agricultural service, said the wheat was part of two million tons authorised Dec 23 under the Export Enhancement Programme or EEP. Goldthwait said the wheat is for shipment in January. Counting some wheat left over from previous EEP arrangements, the Soviets have about 1.6 million tons still available under the programme. The Soviet Union bought more than nine million tons of wheat under EEP arrangements during the fifth year of the grain agreement. The pact expired Sept 30 but was later extended for another year.

Department officials said also the Soviets bought an additional 314,256 tons of US corn that had previously been reported by exporters as headed for "unknown destinations." The corn sales are not subsidised. With the latest sales, the Soviets have bought about 10.4 million tons of US corn for delivery in the sixth year of the supply agreement. The EEP arrangement allows exporters to sell wheat and other designated commodities to specific countries at reduced prices in order to meet foreign competition. The exporters then collect free government surpluses of grain or other products as bonuses, or subsidies. Last year, US corn sales to the Soviet Union totalled slightly less than 5.2 million tons. Wheat sales in 1987-88, all subsidised, totalled slightly more than nine million tons. A metric ton is about 2,205 pounds and is equal to 39.4 bushels of corn or 36.7 bushels of wheat or soybeans. The 420,000 tons of wheat would be about 15.4 million bushels. The latest corn sales would be about 12.4 million bushels. Wheat prices at the farm have been averaging around \$4 per bushel, according to recent USDA market figures, making the new sale worth an estimated \$62 millions. The corn, at \$2.60 per bushel, could have a farm value of about \$32 million.

### Panel urges more flexible controls on computer exports

WASHINGTON, Jan 1. (AP): The United States and its allies should take a more focused and flexible approach to export controls on computers, especially since the existing curbs have become virtually unenforceable, a scientific advisory panel said last week. It urged that the administration concentrate instead on striving — together with its NATO allies and Japan — to control leakage to the Soviet bloc of militarily valuable supercomputers and the most advanced computer manufacturing processes. "The United States cannot afford to be complacent about its computer technology strengths or base export control decisions on an assumption of an invincible lead," said the National Research Council report, prepared at the request of the State Department.

It noted that "as the computer market becomes increasingly global, US firms face increasing foreign competition, mostly from firms operating with fewer export barriers under the same COCOM guidelines. Cocom is the Co-ordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls, comprised of the United States, Japan and all NATO countries except Iceland. The report contended that "tighter US controls may reflect the absence of a fully effective multilateral control effort, but there is a risk that in the computer area, the United States may lock the proverbial barn door after the horse has escaped." Preparing the assessment was a 17-member committee chaired by Seymour E. Goodman, professor of management information systems and policy at the University of Arizona. The National Research Council is the principal operating agency of the national academies of sciences and engineering. The report concluded that "current technological progress will make controls harder to enforce, and technological and market developments combine to make a case for a more focused and flexible control process." Increasingly powerful computer hardware and software, it said, are in effect becoming commodities in world trade.

### Inflation sets record 28.79pc

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, Jan 1. (AP): Out-of-control inflation jumped a record 28.79 per cent in December as the government's latest efforts to control the spiral of rising wages and prices has failed, the government said last week. Accumulated inflation in the year reached 933.62 per cent, also a 12-month record, according to the Geography and Statistics Institute. In 1987, the year's inflation was 363.96 per cent, the institute said. Annual figures are calculated by compounding, not adding, the monthly rate. The inflation figure is through Dec 15, according to the government's method of gathering statistics. Inflation through Nov 15 was 26.92 per cent, the government said. Personal expenses pushed up the cost of living more than any other item, jumping by 33 per cent in the month. Food was up 29.76 per cent in December, the institute said. December inflation was substantially higher than the 26 per cent target set in a "social pact" negotiated between business, government and labour leaders in an October-November last ditch effort to stop runaway cost of living increases. During a 60-day trial period, there were to be voluntary limits placed on price increases and public services. Workers agreed to pre-set raises to compensate for inflation. The government has indicated that in January it will impose an anti-inflation programme, which is expected to include cuts in public spending. The deficit, widely believed to fuel inflation, is running at about six per cent of Gross National Product. In recent years, Brazil has instituted several widely heralded plans to cut inflation, but nothing has worked for more than a few months at a time.

## We have to live according to new economic realities: Odeh

### Jordan unveils austerity budget for '89

made for 1988, which was worth \$3.16 billion at the time.

Actual spending and income in 1988 have not yet been announced.

These numbers reflect the government's will to decrease spending although the servicing of the debt has increased and spending on production projects still continues," Odeh said.

The budget details carried by the official Jordan news agency came on the heels of government steps to devalue the dinar and rein in imports because of strains on the country's foreign exchange.

"We have to live according to new economic realities," Finance Minister Hanna Odeh said in a statement broadcast by the state-run Radio Jordan.

Odeh said repayment of debts built up over the past decade is "a burden we have to carry on our shoulders."

The budget for this country of some three million people sets a spending target of 1,035 billion dinars (\$2.17 billion), down from 1,075 billion dinars (\$3.16 billion).

Because of the devalued dinar, the new plan is \$990 million less ambitious than the proposal first

announced.



# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

## ACCOMMODATION

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# ARAB TIMES

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AUDI Quattro 1983, AC, manual red, in excellent condition. KD4000, cash. Tel. 5511608, 9037196. (AT3-45445-3)

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C. Hoose  
remain only  
undefeated  
darts team

WITH the KBRC Monday League now in its three week winter break, teams can now reflect on their progress so far. On average 8 of the scheduled 22 fixtures have been completed by each team, which leaves plenty of time for fortunes to fluctuate.

As the only undefeated team, last season's runners-up Cottar Hoose can be quite happy with their performances to date, though their League lead is only a game difference over new boys Straight As Darts.

Neither team can afford to be complacent, as defending champions Bagg's, Cunning Linguists and Tanker Co. are all within 4 points of the top.

In the Ladies League, Bandits have emerged as clear leaders, having dropped only two points in an early season encounter with Cottar Hoose. This was however one of only two successes so far for the Hoose girls, who will have to make no more mistakes if they intend to retain the crown they earned last season.

With Pacifics and Dai-A-Straights each having lost only twice, there is still a long way to go before any side can claim the 1989 title.

Individually, there have been several personal performances of note. Three players have all made a 180 score, Ken Edwards, Keith Swaden and Louis Jorgenson, but strangely enough all have gone on to lose the game in which they were playing, 2-1 — obviously too stunned to finish.

27 140 club trophies for men have been won, while 9 ladies have achieved the equivalent feat in their matches. The least number of darts needed to win a leg is 16 by Doug Francis in his 2-1 defeat of a shell-shocked Mike Simms, and Peter Granowski managed 9 bulls in 6 darts but still lost in a Mickey Mouse against Raghams.

The leader in the trophy for the ladies highest score of the season is Maureen Simms of Queens with 154, with Mary Craig of Mishraf second on 140. Men's highest score is currently shared on 103 by Andy Wilson (SAAD) and Brendon Richardson (C.H.), whilst the race for the most number of high scores trophy is very close, George Smith (SAAD) ahead on 12, with John Gowland (C.H.), John Donovan (SAAD) and Tony Robinson (Exiles), all one score behind.

Games re-start on January 9, and the Straight As Darts v Cottar Hoose clash on Feb 6 is eagerly awaited.

#### Monday League

	Men's Division	W	L	GF/GA	Prs
C. Hoose	8	6	2	36-12	14
SAAD	8	7	1	34-14	14
C. Linguists	9	5	2	33-21	12
Baggs	7	5	2	37-15	11
Tanker Co.	8	4	2	32-20	10
Earles	8	3	3	29-19	9
Raghams	7	3	1	33-21	7
Wallingers	9	1	5	25-29	6
Bandits	8	3	0	36-37	6
Mishraf	8	1	0	14-34	2
Members	7	0	0	5-37	0

	Ladies Division	W	L	GF/GA	Prs
Bandits	8	7	1	14-3	14
Pacifics	7	5	2	11-6	10
Queens	8	5	0	20-12	10
Dai-A-S.	6	4	1	12-5	5
Tanker Co.	9	4	0	9-3	4
Cottar Hoose	6	3	0	4-6	4
Raghams	4	1	0	3-2	2
Nightbirds	6	0	0	0-0	0

#### Blair sweeps team trials

WEST ALLIS, Wisconsin, Jan 1. (UPI): Double Olympic medallist Bonnie Blair won both races last night to sweep the two-day competition in the team trials for the US sprint speedskating team. Blair won the 500-metre race in a time of 41.24 seconds and the 1,000 metres in 1:25.60. Blair, who won a gold medal in the 500 and a bronze in the 1,000 at the Winter Olympics in Calgary, also won both races Friday night.

The 23-year-old ran a smooth race through the skyscraper-lined streets of downtown Sao Paulo, finishing in 36 minutes 25 seconds.

In the women's section, Aurora Cunha of Portugal won an easy first in 42 minutes and 12 seconds which brought her to the finish line more than one minute ahead of Britain's Wendy Sly.

Cunha, 29, last ran the Sao Silvestre in 1980 and placed seventh. She is an acclaimed road racer.

The Sao Silvestre is South America's oldest and most prestigious road race.

About 10,000 contestants, including many Brazilian celebrities, took part. One politician ran in honour of Francisco Mendes, a leading ecologist who was murdered in Amazonia nine days ago.

Two top contenders, Kenyan runners Peter Koch and Boston marathon champion Ibrahim Hussein, were not among the first 10 to reach the finish line.

**Began**

Brazil had five men in the first 10 finishers.

For the first time in the race's history, men and women ran separately.

**North Carolina defeat Iowa**

ATLANTA, Jan 1. (AP): A steady rain and soggy field turned the 21st Peach Bowl into a game of mistakes. Fortunately for North Carolina State, Iowa made its errors first.

Tyrone Jackson ran for a pair of touchdowns as North Carolina State erupted for three quick second-period scores to take a 28-3 half-time lead, then held off the Hawkeyes 28-23 yesterday despite a game-record 428-yard passing performance by Iowa quarterback Chuck Hartlieb.

**Oklahoma rout Wyoming**

SAN DIEGO, Jan 1. (AP): Barry Sanders, in a display of the dazzling form that earned him college football's Heisman Trophy, scored five touchdowns Friday night as Oklahoma State routed Wyoming 62-14 in the Holiday Bowl.

Sanders' fifth touchdown, a 10-yard run, capped a 28-point third quarter for Oklahoma State, ranked No 12 in college football.

He rushed for 222 yards, just 3 yards shy of Craig James' record of 225, set in the 1980 Holiday Bowl.

**Budd hopes to resurrect career as British athlete**

LONDON, Jan 1. (Reuters): Zola Budd still harbours hope of resurrecting her international career as a British athlete nearly eight months after leaving her adoption nation to return home to South Africa.

The former world cross-country champion turned her back on Britain in May after the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) demanded she be banned for a year following her appearance at an athletics meeting in South Africa.

**Return**

But in a television interview shown here yesterday, Budd said she still hoped to return to live in Britain, wanted to compete internationally again — and admitted she had made mistakes in the past.

Budd said she realised that if she did return to Britain, she would need to conduct her life "in a more professional way" than before.

"I'd like to run internationally again," she said. "That's my

#### IMRAN CLASHES WITH UMPIRE

## W. Indies brush aside Pakistan

PERTH, Australia, Jan 1. (Reuters): Pakistan captain Imran Khan was involved in a finger-wagging exchange with umpire Robin Baillache as West Indies strode to a seven-wicket win in their World Series Cup cricket match today.

West Indies' success extended their 100 per cent winning sequence in the triangular limited overs competition to five matches. They lead the standings with 10 points from Australia (2) and Pakistan (0).

All-rounder Imran's confrontation with Baillache started after the umpire signalled a wide for a leg-side delivery in his fifth over to Richie Richardson.

#### Pass

Imran's following delivery was outside off stump and Richardson let the ball pass by. The Pakistani then asked Baillache why that had not been called a wide.

After his next delivery, the final ball of the over, Imran wagged his finger at Baillache and continued what appeared to be a heated discussion as he followed the umpire to square leg before eventually moving to field at mid-off.

Trinidadian Ian Bishop did most of the damage with the new ball in a burst of four for 15 in his first 33 deliveries, finishing with five for 27 from 10 overs.

Bishop, on his second West Indies tour and yet to win a Test cap, was not in the original squad but earned his chance when fellow paceman Curtly Ambrose had to pull out after waking up with stomach trouble.

The West Indian fast bowlers exploited the helpful conditions



Miandad plays a ball past W. Indian wicketkeeper Jeff Dujon. (Reuters wirephoto)

effectively, making the ball bounce disconcertingly at times as Pakistan crashed to 32 for five.

Trinidadian Ian Bishop did most of the damage with the new ball in a burst of four for 15 in his first 33 deliveries, finishing with five for 27 from 10 overs.

Bishop, on his second West Indies tour and yet to win a Test cap, was not in the original squad but earned his chance when fellow paceman Curtly Ambrose had to pull out after waking up with stomach trouble.

Pakistan squandered the chance of an early breakthrough

when Saeed Anwar, at backward point, dropped opener Desmond Haynes off Imran when he had scored only two.

Haynes went on to make 23 as West Indies reached 61 for three, at which point Richardson and Hooper embarked on an unfinished fourth wicket partnership of 81 in 84 minutes to clinch victory.

Richardson's unbeaten 50 occupied 80 deliveries and Hooper scored 33 not out from 60 balls.

#### Scoreboard

PAKISTAN	
Ramiz Raja	bowled b Bishop
Saeed Anwar	b Bishop
Saeed Anwar	c Hooper b Marshall
Javed Miandad	not out
Saeed Anwar	c Richards b Bishop
Ijaz Ahmed	c Greenidge b Bishop
Imran Khan	c Dujon b Bishop
Wasim Akram	c Dujon b Hooper
Tasneef Ahmed	run out
Mohsin Kamal	b Bishop
Asqif Javed	not out
Extras (b-1 lb-3 w-13 nb-9)	31
Total (nine wickets — 50 overs)	140
Fall of wickets: 1-12, 2-20, 3-21, 4-22, 5-32, 6-59, 7-94, 8-135, 9-139.	
Bowling: M. Marshall 7-0-17-1 (4w 1nb), I. Bishop 10-1-27-5 (4w 1nb), C. Walsh 10-2-21-1 (1w 1nb), W. Benjamin 10-3-17-0 (1nb), C. Hooper 8-0-28-1, V. Richardson 5-0-21-0 (4w).	
Batting: time 205 mins. Overs: 50.	

WEST INDIES	
G. Greenidge	c Taseef b Asqif
D. Haynes	c Younus b Akram
K. Richardson	not out
J. Dujon	c Akram b Asqif
C. Hooper	not out
Extras (lb-3 w-3 nb-7)	33
Total (nine wickets — 50 overs)	142
Fall of wickets: 1-30, 2-44, 3-61.	
Did not bat: V. Richardson (captain), R. Harper, M. Marshall, W. Benjamin, I. Bishop, C. Walsh.	
Bowling: Imran 9-2-56-0 (1w), Akram 10-6-27-1 (1w 2nb), Asqif 10-0-33-2 (2nb)	
Result: West Indies won by seven wickets	

Standings	
Stadiums	in the World Series Cup
today's over cricket competition after	
today's match between West Indies and	
Pakistan here (tableau under played,	
won, lost, points, run rate):	
W. Indies	5 1 0 10 4.87
Pakistan	4 0 4 0 3.83

**Standings**

Stadiums



Mahmoud El Khatib (top): quits soccer

## El Khatib scores twice in retirement match

CAIRO, Jan 1. (Reuters): Mahmoud El Khatib, Egypt's top soccer player for more than a decade, scored twice in his retirement game on Friday at a sports festival featuring some of the Arab world's leading footballers.

The relaxed exhibition match between Khatib's Ahli team and their Cairo rivals Zamalek was the highlight of a day of celebrations watched by about 80,000 fans at Cairo stadium.

Khatib, 34, wearing his traditional No 10 red shirt, cut himself loose from normal soccer rules and scored once for each team.

**Dubbed**

He played with Ahli for the first 25 minutes, switched to Zamalek for the rest of the first half and returned to Ahli after the interval.

